



異
世界で
1

まいん
illustration
かぼちゃ

一
度目の
人生
を

NIDOUME NO JINSEI WO ISEKAI DE

– Second Life in Another World –

- Volume 1 -

AUTHOR:

Main

ARTIST:

Kabocha

[Translated by: Infinite Novel Translations]

– SYNOPSIS –

Suddenly, I was informed by a girl that proclaimed herself as God that I had died.

This is a tale that started upon the death of our protagonist, who is sent by a girl who seems to be God, to lead a second life in another world.

「ばんばかばあーん、
おめでとーございます、
貴方には異世界に転生する権利が
与えられることとなりましたー！」

唐突に目の前に現れた、
無駄にテンションの高い幼女の号令の下に、
一斉に紐を引かれるクラッカー。
これは絶対にやばい、と
蓮弥の脳内で警鐘が鳴り響いた。

二度目の人生を 異世界で1

シオン＝ファム＝
ファタール

森の中で同業者に襲われていたところを
運弥に助けられた見習い剣士。
少々世間知らずの気がある。

功刀 運弥

大往生した末に、神様に乞われて異世界へ。
どうやら前世でいろいろやらかしていたらしく、
身体能力が異常に高い。

ギリエル

名もなき部下天使Aであったが、
神から人（神？）格を与えられて
運弥の守護天使に。

（幼女）神様

運弥を異世界に飛ばした張本人。
いろいろ苦労人らしいが、
常にハイテンションな為
あまりそうは見えない。

ローナ＝
シュヴァリエ

シオンと行動を共にする僧侶。
持ち前の美貌を武器に運弥に迫るが
何か裏があるらしく……。

『どういふことなのか……
お分かりですよね?』

ダイレクトに伝わってくる
熱と柔らかさと重みが、
あつさりと蓮弥の理性を蕩かしかける。



CHAPTER 1

IT SEEMS IT WAS A PEACEFUL DEATH

Author Note: It's recommended to skim over this in a carefree manner.

“Pan-pa-ka-pan, Congratulations! You have been given the right to reincarnate into a different world! This is such a super rare thing to happen, one could compare it to winning a lottery! You’re happy, right? Right? Yeah, it’s been decided that you are, indeed, happy! Everyone, prepare the crackers!” (???)

“Eh?” (Renya)

All of a sudden, something appeared in front of me. A little girl with blonde hair that was excited for some reason. A bunch of beautiful blonde girls with a pairs of white wings surrounded me.

Those blonde girls were, for some reason, wearing an unpleasant expression. In their hands, they were holding a somewhat larger version of crackers used for parties. They took a stance in unison.

“Do it!” (???)

On the little girl’s order, they pulled the strings simultaneously.

I don’t know what the hell these blonde girls are, yet, these crackers were making a thunderous roar as they shook the ground. I fall on my butt.

“Cracker released! Music Squad, Equip Instruments! The Clapping and Singing Squad, begin preparations!” (???)

Despite the unpleasant look on the girl’s faces, the little girl gave the orders with high tension.

Half of the girls took musical instruments out of nowhere while the rest of them began to clap their hands together and brought them to their chest in preparation to sing together.

「ばんばかばあーん、
おめでとーございます、
貴方には異世界に転生する権利が
与えられることとなりましたー!」

唐突に目の前に現れた、
無駄にテンションの高い幼女の号令の下に、
一斉に紐を引かれるクラッカー。
これは絶対にやばい、と
蓮弥の脳内で警鐘が鳴り響いた。

二度目の人生を 異世界で1

"This is really dangerous!" Renya's brain alerted him.

Even those crackers had already caused such a big roar. Now, there would be musical instruments and songs? What in the world would happen!?

Renya decided that his eardrums and heart couldn't take anymore. He's now thinking of how to get out of this situation.

"Song of celebration, ready...huh...nugya- !?" (???)

Without a second thought, Renya got up and mercilessly launched a perfect front kick to the little girl shouting off commands.

The little girl never thought that she would get attacked. She took the kick to the face and began rolling on the ground.

After it had happened, he began to realize that all of the girls were taking orders from this little girl. This meant that she was the commander.

Of course, he looked around because nobody should have missed what he did just now. Yet, no one was moving.

Renya thought that these girls might not be able to move without orders. However, he then saw a number of girls smirking and laughing. Some of them even gave him a thumbs up gesture. He immediately changed his previous thoughts.

It seems that they are reluctantly following orders. There were even some girls that were secretly waving their hands at him.

"W-what are you doing!?" (???)

The little girl on the floor began to slowly stand as she protested to him.

Though Renya didn't have any intention to point it out, seeing a girl that was wearing only a *Kantoui* (simple cloth with only 1 hole for head) tumbling on the floor, he averted his eyes as he attempted to not see something that he must not see.

"You're so noisy ! The crackers earlier were already as noisy as hell! If you lot began singing now, my eardrums would break, you know!?" (Renya)

“That’s not a reason to kick a little girl’s face!” (???)

“I don’t discriminate against age!” (Renya)

“I’m a girl you know!?” (???)

“My principle is that girls and boys are equal!” (Renya)

Renya declared that proudly. There was a slight commotion, yet, there was also some applause coming from the crowd.

“Why are you guys applauding him!?” (???)

The little girl yelled at the other girls, yet, the girls somehow averted their faces in unison, as if they had already practiced it in advance.

While Renya was questioning what kind of group was before him, the girl turned towards Renya once again.

“Geez, I chose the wrong personnel.” (???)

“What are you talking about? Or rather, where am I?” (Renya)

As far I can see, this place is flooded with little girls that have wings. When I look up, I don’t see a blue sky. It’s like a thin white light that’s spread across the horizon.

“This is the land of god.” (???)

“Oh~” (Renya)

Renya responded lazily towards the little girl with the thin chest.

“Kunugi Renya-san, you have died.” (???)

“Heh~” (Renya)

“You died at the age of 94 from old age. Cool, right? Long life, Banzai!” (???)

Though she had declared it so, Renya still couldn’t believe it. According to the little girl, he died at the age of 94 not because of illness or accident, but because he had

reached his maximum lifespan. He had no recollection of such a thing.

“Well, because it’s troublesome to face an old man, I set your state back to when you were 18 years old.” (???)

Hearing this, a small blue vein popped up on Renya’s head.

“Oi...” (Renya)

“In fact, using a Loli appearance with those mature words, I find that gap moe or whatever its called disgusting. I’d prefer to call you Loli-Baba or Shota-Jiji.” (???)

“Oi, cut it out.” (Renya)

Certainly, it’s dangerous to speak whatever I want to this little girl. I tried to interrupt her, but it seems that this girl has no intention of stopping.

“I don’t really care but, keep such talk about your disposition towards minorities in the trash.” (???)

“So why’d you bring it up?”

Renya’s tsukkomi was ignored.

“Back to the topic, you have been given the right to be reincarnated into a different world.” (???)

“Don’t need it.” (Renya)

The little girl froze at such an unexpected line. Ignoring the girl’s reaction, Renya continued.

“Somehow, it sounds like a pain. Furthermore, it seems exaggerated. Not to mention, I feel like you are trying to hide something from me.” (Renya)

“I-I wonder what are you talking about...” (???)

Renya continues to apply pressure in his voice as the little girl averted her gaze.



“If you say that my previous life was a peaceful death, there’s supposed to be no lingering feelings or regrets. Well, as I can’t recall anything, it’s not like I can attest to that. It might be that after I got sent to heaven or hell, I might just forget it, right? Though I don’t really want to be sent to hell.” (Renya)

“T-That’s right! If you refuse this, you will be sent to hell!” (???)

Of course, it was apparent that this was just made up on the spot. It was as suspicious as hell. Following this, Renya began to inquire.

“What are my charges?” (Renya)

“Charges!? E-Ehm... Ah! That’s right! Murder!” (???)

“Hm, I died peacefully due to old age, right? Does that mean I didn’t get caught until the day I died?” (Renya)

The little girl’s face became strained.

“A-Ah, you died in jail!” (???)

“Oh, I surprisingly committed a crime at such an old age, huh? Even if it wasn’t at that age, how many people did I kill? Since, I apparently died due to old age in prison. So? How many did I kill?” (Renya)

“A-Ah, that’s right! People deprive others of life to maintain their own! Basically, you’re one of those sinners!” (???)

“If that was the case, then that means there’s no Heaven? Are all forms of the afterlife just Hell? Those who practice religion sure are insane.” (Renya)

“I-If they were vegetarian...” (???)

“I see, so you’re one of those people who think that vegetation doesn’t have life. Or are you one of those people that arbitrarily place a large or small value on each life? Are you one of those that think it’s bad to eat whales because they have intelligence, but still eat cows and pigs hypocritically? Are you one of those people that can make friends with dolphins, yet can’t be friends with chickens?” (Renya)

Renya thought that none of them were correct though. Even though Renya stopped

there, if his opponent wanted to object again, he could still continue this pointless discussion. Most likely, in this girl's head, the value of life was equivalent to a spec of dust.

"I'm sorry. I will apologize so, would you please listen to my explanation?" (???)

The girl prostrated herself in a dogeza. It was unknown whether the girl was aware of what Renya was thinking or not.

Applause came from the girls.

"Ugh, why do you guys clap when I meet such a terrible fate!?" (???)

The little girl stood up as all the other girls purposefully avoided her gaze. She was glaring at the girls while grinding her teeth. Following this, Renya made a small cough, making the little girl look at him again.

"I will listen properly since you intend to clearly explain it. After that, whether I agree or not is a different matter, though." (Renya)

"Mu, I guess it's fine. First, I am the being recognized as God. These erotic girls are what you call Angels." (God)

sfx: Booing

As jeers filled the crowd, the little girl simply gave a single glare, causing the commotion to die down.

"You girls are definitely erotic! Who were the ones that tried to make kids with humans and performed yuri to the extent that they somehow got a virgin pregnant, huh!?" (God)

Upon hearing the little girl's voice, quite a number of the girls looked off into the distance with an expression that said "I know nothing".

"Seriously, you girls're only good at complaining..." (God)

"That doesn't matter. Please continue the explanation." (Renya)

"Eh ? No tsukkomi this time?" (God)

Suprisingly, the little girl said that.

“Well, people are free to name themselves anyway. Then, which god are you? Jesus? Buddha? Or, pay-back god ?” (Renya)

“Please stop. Don’t compare me to something that humans created.” (God)

The girl frowned.

“I am me. No one else. I am the one who creates and controls all.” (God)

“Wow, so cool. Now then, why did Kami-sama bother to appear before one person ?” (Renya)

As Renya spoke with a sarcastically humble tone, the little girl frowned...

“You didn’t believe me right ? It doesn’t matter though. I have a clear reason to show myself in front of you. That’s because I have a request for you.” (God)

“Does it have anything to do with the right of reincarnating into another world?” (Renya)

“That was the request itself. Basically, I want you to go to that world.” (God)

The little girl said thus while quietly looking up at Renya.

CHAPTER 2

IT SEEMS I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED

"Again, why me?" (Renya)

Renya voiced an all too obvious question. The little girl spoke to Renya who had thought that there was no way he would be the clichéd 'chosen one'.

"That's because you are the chosen one!" (God)

"Ah?" (Renya)

"I'm sorry. I lied. I apologize so please don't hit me." (God)

Seeing Renya clenching his fist with a grim expression, the little girl bowed her head and apologized.

A small applause could be heard...

"You bastards! You got a problem with me!?" (God)

Everyone heavily nodded in unison in response to the screaming girl.

I guess their frustrations accumulated into a grudge, huh? (Renya)

He saw the little girl crumble to her knees.

"Ugh, fine. I will explain the rest so you guys please go somewhere else. The conversation is not making any progress and my heart...is probably broken..." (God)

This god seems to pretty much have a weak mental constitution, eh ? (Renya)

The girls smiled at Renya and waved while their bodies began disappearing. The sight of people fading away made Renya doubt whether this was reality.

"<INFO>: You have acquired the <Angels' Blessing>."

Eh? What the hell is this? (Renya)

Renya tilted his head as he saw the little girl stand up and turn towards him.

“Ehm, I lied about you being the chosen one. However, not everything was a lie. Not everyone can pass through the wall between worlds.” (God)

“So, basically, I can go through those walls?” (Renya)

“Yes. Since you have trained your body to a certain extent, there seems to be nothing wrong with you for the most part. In addition, you don’t seem to have any lingering feelings towards your world.”

Since I died peacefully, isn’t it obvious that I don’t have any lingering feelings? (Renya)

For now, Renya decided to remain silent.

“So, there technically isn’t any problem with me, right?” (Renya)

As Renya had kicked this God a little earlier, she shook her head.

“Even though the kick was unexpected, it was nothing much. Atheists are not rare. I’m not even agitated by the fact that you kicked my little girl figure away. Equality of genders is not a bad thing either.” (God)

“For future reference, can I ask what is bad then?” (Renya)

“I’m pretty sure its pillaging, raiding, and killing. Well, basically anyway.” (God)

“Fuahahahahahahahaha” (God)

A creepy laugh could be heard. Renya began shivering.

It would be perfect if she had white paint on her face. (Renya)

“What are you trying to accomplish by sending me to another world?” (Renya)

“Nothing at all~” (God)

As soon she declared that, Renya knocked her head. There was quite the resonance. The girl squealed as she put her hands on her head.

“Don’t play with the dead if you don’t have any business!” (Renya)

“You sure are fast to declare yourself as a deadman~” (God)

“I have lived for almost a century. Isn’t that long enough? Though I don’t have any memory of it, I think it’s enough.” (Renya)

“Though I think telling a person that just finished one life to go live another is cruel, can you listen to my request? It would make me happy, you know.” (God)

“I thought you didn’t have any business with me?” (Renya)

When Renya asked the suddenly humble little girl, she nodded. Seeing this, Renya could only clench his fist. Realizing this, the girl speak again.

“I have a clear reason to ask you to go, you know? That’s why, please stop hitting me!” (God)

“What do you mean? I want answers.” (Renya)

“I want you to go because the world you are designated to go to is low on resources.” (God)

Though she did explain it somewhat, Renya did not understand anything. Thus, he continued to press her.

It can’t be helped, huh? (God)

“That was really the reason though, ugh, how should I say this...” (God)

With a troubled expression, the girl spread both of Renya’s hands in front of him. Suddenly, a transparent window appeared before his eyes. Renya couldn’t hide his shock. The window in front of him was projecting some kind of map.

At least, it was a map which Renya had never seen. As it’s scale was reduced, Renya couldn’t understand anything. There were four lands that formed the shape of a four-leaf clover. The intersection of the four lands respectively created areas in the north, west, east, and south.

“If the map’s upper part is north, then..but..” (Renya)

“Relax, I have translated this to match your knowledge in your previous world. Make no mistake, the map’s upper part is north.” (God)

“Is that so? But, this is the first time I’ve seen this kind of geography. What map is this?” (Renya)

“It’s the continent of Eldra. It’s a unique continent in the world that I want Renya-san to go to. As for the size, that clover thing could probably be compared to the size of Eurasia.” (God)

“What!?” (Renya)

Having said that, Renya once again looked at the map.

(TL Note : From this point on, i will refer to our God (Little Girl) as Chibi, since it's troublesome to write little girl all the time.)

If what the chibi said was true, then this is a huge continent that is 2 times larger than Eurasia in both height and length.

“Ridiculous.” (Renya)

“It is the truth. There’s no need to be overwhelmed.” (God)

“To see a planet that is ridiculously larger than earth.. How many are there!?” (Renya)

“It’s not a planet though.” (God)

“What!?” (Renya)

She opened another window. There, Renya saw a waterfall that was massive in both height and length. He had never seen this before. He could see the large body of water clearly.

“Can you see this? In this world, at the ends of the worlds, there’s always a waterfall that falls into nothingness.” (God)

As the Chibi said thus with a serious face, Renya stood dumbfounded for a straight 5 minutes.

“What era is this?” (Renya)

“Even though it seems like an Earth envisioned by old-fashioned theorists, this is the reality of this world. If you go beyond the waterfall and fall down, you will disappear. There’s no turning back.” (God)

“Who is the fool that created this world!?” (Renya)

In reality, this was Renya’s genuine opinion. This time, the girl responded with a loud voice.

“This God in front of you! Who the hell are you calling stupid!?” (God)

“Aren’t you stupid, though? What did you eat that made you want to create such a thing!?” (Renya)

“Isn’t it obvious that it’s because the sea is surrounding the continent!?” (God)

“What the hell is this world? Is there even a re-circulation of water here!?” (Renya)

“Of course, there’s no way that exists you idiot! Don’t lump this world’s logic together with yours!” (God)

“The lack of resources is because of this stupid system, right!?” (Renya)

It might be because of the harsh intonation, or because she was called stupid, or possibly because Renya had previously used violence on her, the chibi realized her defeat as her face grew pale.

“Anyway, because there’s no re-circulation, there’s gotta be some kind of power that keeps supplying it, right ? Even if there’s gotta be some water that evaporated after it fell into that place. If this continues forever, without such a water supply, won’t it eventually dry up?” (Renya)

“T-T-There’s no way such a thing will happen, you know?” (God)

“Oi, chibi. Look me in the eyes and say it clearly.” (Renya)

“I-I Swear! T-That’s really not it! I admit that I used power pointlessly, but this and the request are not related! I swear to God!” (God)

Oi, aren't you the God? Is what Renya wanted to tsukkomi, yet, refrained from doing so.

Renya stared at the chibi, however, the chibi completely averted her gaze.

“Oi.” (Renya)

“I will continue the explanation. Eldra, as you can see, is divided into five regions.”
(God)

The chibi continued the explanation as loud as possible. He could have continued to apply pressure, however, seeing the chibi had already been cornered, he urged himself to let her continue.

“North, south, east, west, and... Center, huh..” (Renya)

“That’s right, North, south, east, and west is controlled by a singular race. These are the Humans, Elves, Demi-humans, and Dragon Races respectively.”

“And the center ?” (Renya)

“Demon Race.” (God)

According to the chibi’s explanation, the continent was divided into five.

“Well, I can’t give too detailed an explanation. This world is basically turning into a harsh environment. To put it simply, war often breaks out.” (God)

Amazed by the chibi, Renya tried to ask something obvious.

“Why?” (Renya)

“Though I thought that the related parties didn’t realize this, there are 5 warlords in each race. They seem to be starting wars to kill some time.” (God)

“S-T-O-P-T-H-E-M!” (Renya)

“W-Wait! Don’t strangle me! My neck! Why are you aiming precisely at my arteries!? I’ll die! I’ll die!!!!” (God)

On the edge of death from being strangled, the chibi fell away from Renya. Not willing

to let go, Renya chased the chibi. Depending on her answer, he was planning on breaking her neck.

By the way, the difference is, he wasn't trying to cut off her respiratory system (choke her). He was trying to break her neck.

"Don't fuck with me! Because of you, wars are breaking out!" (Renya)

"I understand what you are saying, but I can't do anything!" (God)

The girl was desperately trying to escape, her expression full of fear.

"You are God, right?" (Renya)

"Since I already transferred the management rights of this world, it's impossible! Though I can take it back forcefully, there's a consequence, you know? So, basically-" (God)

While trying to protect her neck, she kept running a little while longer. Following this, she stood still while thinking and said.

"If I can make 80% of the continent sink, then I might be able to do something about it." (God)

"Denied." (Renya)

"Then, I can't do anything. Although, if we can make the warlords there return the management rights, then it would be a different story." (God)

Having declared so, Renya stopped his chase.

"Because of them, the death and life cycle in this world has stopped." (God)

"What do you mean?" (Renya)

After confirming that Renya had paused his pursuit, the chibi turned around and continued her explanation.

"Although souls that died normally from disease or old age are fine, what about those who did not meet a normal end. Those who got captured and killed on the battlefield,

those who got slashed into pieces, those who got eaten by dragons, those who died in raids by goblins or orcs. Do you think those souls will want to return to such an environment?" (God)

"Well, that'd probably be impossible." (Renya)

"That's right. Thus, souls that reject such a world begin to accumulate." (God)

The chibi spoke with an exasperated expression.

Even if it came from the neck that Renya had tried to break a short while ago, somehow, he could sympathize with her.

"I tried to persuade the warlords, presenting the benefits the rejected souls possess to their world. I had tried plenty of things, all of which were fruitless endeavors." (God)

"So you've at least tried something, huh?" (Renya)

"Yeah, once. However, not only was it fruitless, I was blamed by the inhabitants. I, at the very least, planned to allow myself to get strangled." (God)

Because I was from another world, she denied to get strangled by me, huh... (Renya)

Renya urged her to continue.

"That's why, because they get reincarnated to another world, this world's resources began to decline." (God)

"Isn't it fine to destroy such a world?" (Renya)

Not only do the warlords have no intention of properly managing things, the population continues to drop in such an environment. Even if it was left alone, such a world would probably get destroyed soon anyway. (Renya)

"That might be okay, but thinking about the souls that will be lost, it cannot be allowed to be destroyed." (God)

Even if we can recreate it again, the angels and I will die from exhaustion. (God)

"It's technically impossible. There will be lot of souls that got reincarnated without my

knowing. The number of souls that reject reincarnation into the other world are too scarce.” (God) *(ED: All the souls would leave that world for better ones and there wouldn’t be enough left for a proper population after recreation.)*

Souls with more than a certain quality consume the resources of the world that they are originally made from. Following this, the souls use even more of this world’s resources in order to immigrate to another. Those souls that got reincarnated to another world are slightly but surely reducing this world’s resources.

“That was quite a complex story, huh...” (Renya)

“Yes, we need to somehow persuade the lords, and then get the world’s order back to normal. It’s very time-consuming. Basically, what I’m asking is-” (God)

“I want you to go there to stall for time and preserve the world’s resources.’ Am I right?” (Renya)

“If it was only bringing me resources, I wouldn’t need to ask you. However, just like how a file attached to an email and the file itself are completely different things, you’ll have to attach something to someone’s soul.” (God)

“Something like a file attachment software?” (Renya)

“It might be worthy to create it if there’s someone to take it, but I can’t since the warlords don’t understand and have denied my interference.” (God)

Even if you can send something, it’s meaningless if there’s no one to receive it. If they realized that their world is going to be destroyed, things would have been different. But they don’t. They only think that my interference is unnecessary. (God)

God spoke with a wry smile.

“Can you explain the current situation?” (Renya)

“I got rejected.” (God)

“It’s obvious that it’s the warlords’ fault.” (Renya)

“There wasn’t even a reply.” (God)

Watching the chibi hang her head, Renya sighed.

If he didn't hear such a story, he could just ignore their troubles. However, now that he knew, he couldn't pretend that it wasn't his problem. Actually, Renya didn't want to get involved with this sort of trouble, yet, he had decided.

"I got it. Let's team up." (Renya)

CHAPTER 3

IT SEEMS I GOT A CHEAT

“I’m truly sorry to involve you in this predicament. I truly appreciate it, Renya-san.”
(God)

The chibi bowed her head deeply.

In times like this, it was hard to directly look at the chibi. Renya felt really bad since he didn’t mean any harm.

“It’s fine already so please raise your head.” (Renya)

There was a little bit of impatience mixed in Renya’s words. Hearing this, the little girl slowly raised her head.

“I’m truly sorry to cause trouble for you. If you were to reject this, I would have to look for another compatible person.” (God)

As this appeared to be a significant matter, Renya’s interest was piqued as he began to ask.

“By the way, what’re the chances of finding a compatible person ?” (Renya)

“1 in 5,630,000,000 people.” (God)

Renya swallowed upon hearing thus. From the number itself, it seemed like the chances were just one person in the entire earth.

“Then, how will you send me there? Don’t tell me, reincarnation?” (Renya)

Renya said thus as he implied that he wanted to be spared from such a fate. Even though Renya agreed to help, reincarnating into a baby again felt like too much of a pain. Also, if he were to become a baby with this mental state, he would die from embarrassment.

“If I were to use the reincarnation system, there’s a chance that the warlord there

could repel it with their management right. So, I won't be reincarnating you. Since you will return here again if you die, we have to plan before the next reincarnation." (God)

Even if he was sent, it didn't mean that he only had one chance. Renya felt relieved as it looked like it wouldn't take too much time.

"For the family register stuff, since there are tons of lost people that inhabit this world, there should be no problem." (God)

"What do you mean?" (Renya)

"There's quite a number of people that came from other worlds there, you know? Since the world itself is not stable, there are lots of occurrences where people get transferred there." (God)

"What happened to the requirement of having a good aptitude that you mention earlier!?" (Renya)

"It will be troublesome if you failed to cross it, you know." (God)

The chibi lifted her little finger and made another window appear in order to continue her explanation.

"Since once you are there, you will have to live there for a few decades. I, the God, will be giving you a present!" (God)

Hearing such a strange intonation, Renya hit the God's head.

"Oh yeah, you're a god, aren't you?" (Renya)

"D-O-N-T-F-O-R-G-E-T-I-T! That's the most important thing, you know!?" (God)

"Since you are wearing such an outfit, you are far from divine." (Renya)

The chibi began to pout upon hearing this. Renya began to feel that he shouldn't have said it. Then, the chibi muttered.

"I thought that I could lure his lust with this gorgeous feminine body, but to think that it would have the opposite effect..." (God)

“Don’t make assumptions!” (Renya)

Receiving Renya’s cold gaze, the girl clenched her fist and spoke.

“It can’t be helped, huh... Humans can never see beauty beyond superficial appearance. If an Ikemen hugged a girl, they would hardly raise any problems. Yet, when it comes to a geek or a nerd, they would deem it as sexual harassment, right? That’s reality.” (God)

“Even though that’s true, that’s not the point! You said you’ll give me a gift, right? You’ll give me something, right?” (Renya)

Since it seems that it would diverge into a very unappealing topic, Renya interrupted her. Following this, the girl clapped her hands.

“Oh, that’s right! To start with, my first gift to you is, <Youth>!” (God)

“I will be forever young...” (Renya)

“That is <Youth>. ” (God)

From Renya’s point of view, even though she said such a thing, it felt hard to believe.

“It is <Youth>! You, the 94 years old gramps, will be able to live in a spanking new 18 year-old body thanks to my power!” (God)

“Even if I got sent in my 94 year-old body, shouldn’t it fine ? I would still come back here again when I die anyway.” (Renya)

Since he was only going for the resources, he didn’t feel the need to be able to live a long time over there.

Renya thought that it would be more efficient this way.

“Besides, I don’t have anything else to do there, right?” (Renya)

“T-That’s true.. But that world is one with magic and swords, you know! You can build fame easily as an adventurer! Not to mention, you could also create a Harem! Isn’t that every guy’s dream!? Why are you saying such a line that smells like a rotting geezer!?” (God)

“Well, I am a geezer though.” (Renya)

Chibi is dumbounded.

“Oh? Eh... Hm...” (God)

While running her hand in the window she just opened, she began to think.

Although it was slightly transparent, Renya couldn't see what was written there. After a while, the chibi found what she had been searching for and, with sparkling eyes, turned to Renya.

“Actually, Renya-san, in that world, there's a lot of delicious food that's not on Earth, you know ?” (God)

“Hoh?” (Renya)

It seems that the chibi was looking for information about my life to see whether she could persuade me. Since I don't have any memories, it seems that somehow, I can't resist the persuasion. I guess it means that I was pretty much a food-lover, huh ? (Renya)

“Of course, there's cheap delicious food and there's also food that is expensive and super delicious. To buy such a food, it would be impossible for a 94 year-old gramps to earn the money.” (God)

“Fine, fine. I'll go with the new body. But, I won't forgive any more secrets. What are you planning?” (Renya)

“I assume that it will take several decades for the scattered Resources to bind with Renya-san's soul. They are not something that can just be easily obtained. Since resources won't diffuse themselves into corpses, this God would be very grateful if Renya-san could live a long life.” (God)

Surprisingly, the chibi easily told the truth. It looks like she has realized that lying would not be beneficial.

“Eh...that's not really a gift, ain't that something necessary ?” (Renya)

“Ugh... even though you just thanked me for making you 18 again...” (God)

She said such cunning words with teary eyes.

“Since you said you would give me a gift, at least give me an appropriate one. In order to live and do my duty, isn’t that a given?” (Renya)

“Ugh, then, what kind of gift do you want?” (God)

Renya skillfully reversed God’s plan and began to ask for favors.

“My gift will be, <Anything Renya-san needs>.” (God)

“Gold.” (Renya)

Renya immediately responded with seriousness.

“And then, an absolutely safe home, and great combat ability.” (Renya)

“Give me a break. Before the resources are lost, the world would be destroyed due to the imbalance.” (God)

The chibi started to kneel in a dogeza, and of course, Renya somehow felt bad.

“Though it would be cool if you could do it, I guess it’s impossible, huh...” (Renya)

“It’s not that I can’t make a mountain of gold, it’s just that the world’s balance would break. Attaining power to destroy a country alone would obviously have a negative outcome. And if I made such a home, the duty would be...” (God)

“Well, I just wanted to try and say it once. Don’t cry.” (Renya)

The girl quickly stands up.

“For now, since I will have a young body, I want <Health>.” (Renya)

Since Renya didn’t want to waste any more time in this awkwardness, he tried to come up with something essential.

“O-Oh, <Health> huh?” (God)

“Since it seems I was a drinker, I think I will need a strong stomach and liver.” (Renya)

“I see. Alcohol resistance and Gluttony right?” (God)

“Also, since I need to make money, I would like some sort of ability. Since it’s a world with magic and swords, fights are inevitable, right?” (Renya)

“That’s right. You need some combat ability...” (God)

The girl took something like a memo out of nowhere and wrote down all of Renya’s wishes.

Renya thought it was strange for her to use such a thing as she could make a window appear out of nowhere.

Following this, Renya continued.

“Also, I would like to try to make some things. For some reason, I’m interested in blacksmithing.” (Renya)

“Fumu, fumu. Renya was a dan in Kendo in your previous life by the way.” (God)

“Is that so? I can’t remember.” (Renya)

“Your body should remember it though.” (God)

“I also want to try magic. I won’t be asking to be omnipotent, but I would like to excel in one area.” (Renya)

“I see. By the way, does Renya-san prefer power or control?” (God)

“Of course, control.” (Renya)

There was once a proverb, it’s useless no matter how powerful one is if they didn’t hit their mark.

“Okay, I will add that as a reference.” (God)

“Also, I won’t be asking to become the strongest at once, but I would like to be able to grow as I train.” (Renya)

“I see. Do you have any wish regarding your looks?” (God)

After asking, the girl continues.

“Since your body is in a coffin back at Earth, I’ll be creating a new body for you. That’s why.” (God)

“I see.” (Renya)

“I can change it up as much as you like. I can create it so that every girl will fall for you at first sight, and every boy’s heart would somehow skip a beat near you. Leave it to me!” (God)

“Can I even change my gender?” (Renya)

“Since I’m creating it from scratch, yes.” (God)

Renya knew that he was a guy. Even though he had no such memory to support it, even from the name, it was hard to think that it belonged to a girl. Renya was thinking which one would be better. The person himself knew that there was no turning back with this. After thinking for a while, he decided.

“Make it a male. Average looks are fine as long as it’s not ugly.” (Renya)

“Ok! The appearance will be decent, at the level that it’s not repulsive to look at.” (God)

After writing everything in the memo, she ripped it out and began to roll it up . From her small lips, she breathed onto the memo, causing it to burn furiously.

Renya wondered why she burned a memo she had written. Then, just like when the angels faded away, a message appeared before him.

“INFO> : You have acquired <Healthy Body> | <Regeneration> | <Alcohol Resistance> | <Gluttony> | <Blacksmithing> | <Fencing> | <Martial Arts> | <Magic (Affinity: Wind)> | <Chant-less Casting> | <Fast Reload> | <Parallel Skill Operation> | <Limitless Growth> | <Judgement> | <Another World’s Language> !”

“What’s this?” (Renya)

“Think of it as something like a skill in games... But, now that I think of it, a 94 year-old gramps wouldn’t have played games, huh..” (God)

“It’s alright. I know that much.” (Renya)

Even though he didn’t have any memory of playing a game, he understood the chibi’s analogy.

“Is that so? I guess I don’t have to explain it. For now, I have granted Renya-san skills that Renya-san wished for. Please remember them and use them. Also, I can’t promise the skills will always be active. I’ll permit you to use a hotline to me once a day. Though, please understand that I can’t always answer. You should be fine if you imagine using the skill in your head.” (God)

“Is that so? Then, when will I leave?” (Renya)

“We can go as soon as you are prepared.” (God)

Beside the chibi, a glowing portal appeared. Renya somehow understood that he needed to enter that in order to proceed.

“Then, I’ll be going. I wonder how many years will pass before our next meeting.” (Renya)

“If you suck, it will be soon. If you are average, a few decades. If you’re good, maybe we won’t meet again.” (God)

“I don’t think immortality exists there, though. Well, if I like that world, maybe I’ll spare some time to look for it.” (Renya)

“Although I can’t answer that, it’s probably worth searching for it.” (God)

Doesn’t that mean it exists ? (Renya)

While thinking thus, Renya continued to walk towards the portal before stopping to take a glance at the chibi again.

“Well, here I go.” (Renya)

“Once again, we apologize for the trouble. We wish you a good life.” (God)

While saying that, the girl bowed.

When Renya passed through the gate, words appeared his head.

“<Info> : You have acquired <God’s blessing> !”

Thus, Renya started his second life that he didn’t exactly ask for. He walked towards the new world.

CHAPTER 3.5

IT SEEMS TO BE INTERLUDE 1

Author Note: The scene that occurred after the protagonist left.

“Looks like he’s gone.”(God)

The chibi stood alone, watching him disappear through the portal

“A God’s body is not something I can just do anything with. If I were really omnipotent, I wouldn’t need to ask him to go...”(God)

“Is there still no response from those managers there ?” (Angel)

The blonde girl with wings from a little while ago had appeared behind the little girl.

“Nothing at all. Even though I tried to say that I didn’t mean to take it by force, they wouldn’t believe me.”(God)

She said while shrugging.

The blonde girl shook her head.

“Is it not because of your position ?”(Angel)

“Is that so ? Would you like to try taking on my responsibilities ?”(God)

“Please do not joke. One such as I am not worthy.” (Angel)

As the girl said thus while lowering her head, the God nodded in response.

“Good. That’s a wise answer. It’s troublesome and doesn’t pose any benefits. If there’s anyone that can replace me, I would gladly give it to them.” (God)

“You have an infinite lifespan, in addition to near omnipotent power. However, now you wish to return to a lifespan of less-than 100, as well as your great knowledge and experience ?”(Angel)

The girl said thus with a surprised expression.

“Is it weird ?” (God)

“I cannot comprehend it.”(Angel)

“How long have you lived ?” (God)

“According to my memory, a minimum of about 1000 years” (Angel)

Seeing the girl trying to remember, the chibi gave a blank look.

“Then I guess you wouldn’t be able to understand.” (God)

“Is that so ?” (Angel)

“I have lived for 11, 260, 000, 000 years. I have remembered everything that has occurred in great detail. It’s agonizing.”(God)

God looked up at the girl as she heaved a deep sigh. The girl who had only lived for 1000 years couldn’t even begin to fathom the depth of her experiences.

“I’m tired of it. All I do is create, destroy and repeat. It’s all just a system. If that was all it means to be a God, it’s laughable..” (God)

“That’s...” (Angel)

The Girl tried to console God, yet couldn’t find the words.. She realized that she had only a experience puny bit of God’s wisdom.

“Well, sometimes fun things still happen. Getting kicked in the face is quite the experience. I can still feel it.” (God)

God suddenly changed the topic. It was obvious that she was trying to change the atmosphere. Realizing this, the Angel decided to go with the flow.

“How many times have you experienced it ?” (Angel)

“This is the first time I’ve gotten kicked by a human. If we’re talking about angels, it’s probably about once a millennium .” (god)

“That means you’ve been kicked more than 10 million times, yes ?” (Angel)

“Oi, that’s cruel ! I’m the creator you know ?” (God)

If she wanted to get kicked, wasn’t it alright ?

Though she had came just to meet a human, she attempted to mobilize 80% of the angels. Leaving aside the junior-classed angels, the associate-level angels would want to start kicking her too.

“Leaving that aside, let’s select some tools for Renya-san. Leaving him nothing would be cruel.” (God)

“Well, since it’s you, shouldn’t you have finished the catalog ?” (Angel)

“Well, yeah. Wanna see ?” (God)

Even though she said that she would pick it, after the selection ended, they hoped that what she sent were simple things. God asked if the girl wanted to look at the catalog because its contents were already set, being permanent and unchangeable. The girl opened a window.

“It’s surprisingly normal.” (Angel)

The contents included food, temporary armor, and weapons. It seemed that, for someone as special as him, there was nothing extraordinary.

“The truth is, even though I already tried to lend him a weapon from the land of god, the junior angels kept making a fuss. Even though I told them that he due to the nature of the request, he need weapons to certain extent.” (God)

“After Renya-sama’s gone, a problem has already arisen, huh.” (Angel)

As far as the angel knew, Renya believe that Artifacts were creations of god. However, this is wrong. Those artifacts are just objects that the warlords drop, or something that people create by chance. The a weapon truly created by God would be something that could easily surpass human imagination. If such a thing was lost in that world, it wouldn’t be strange for as disaster to occur. The angels’ disapproval was undoubtedly correct. While thinking that, the Angel paused.

“Excuse me, this is ?” (Angel)

“It’s something that Renya-san used in the previous world. It’s light and strong, yet, it can’t kill. Since Renya-san has learnt Kendo, he should be able to use it.”(God)

“Have you shown this to the Associate Angels ?” (Angel)

The Chibi looked at the angel with a blank face.

“I did show it to them, though ?” (God)

“Have you explained what it is to them as well ?” (Angel)

“They just skimmed over it as they said “Well, isn’t it fine if it’s just this much ?””(God)

God quickly checked the catalog again. Maybe there was something that the angels had missed. Maybe they said that because they only skimmed it and didn’t check it at all. Apparently, this angel was uninformed about the Shinai. That’s why she asked for explanation.

“This Shinai is unbreakable, right ?” (Angel)

“That’s right. Since normal ones will break right away.” (God)

Actually, this was something that the Chibi chose because she didn’t know what else to give as the angels had denied all of her suggestions. Then, she thought about the meaning about the bamboo in the Shinai. It’s light and can at least be used to exchange blows. However, since she thought it would break in a single hit, she bestowed it with high resistance. That’s why she had made it unbreakable. She thought that if it was unbreakable, he could at least use it to fight against a sword. She also thought that Shinais always come with a Bougu, since that was Kendo itself. As such, she thought it would be okay to give him that much. However, this was apparently a mistake.

“I just want to confirm this with you, but you do know what happens when an unbreakable object collides with something breakable, yes ?” (Angels)

“That’s.. Ah !” (God)

The girl raised her voice in realization.

“As far I can remember, if an unbreakable object and something breakable collide, the breakable object would be destroyed ?” (God)

“That is correct. We can conclude that he is now boasting the capabilities of destroy anything in that world. Is this not a problem !?” (Angel)

“That means, that the Shinai can destroy castles, dragons, Mithril, Orihalcon, and immaterial things like barriers, black magic, and seals in a single hit !?” (God)

“That’s not on the level of a mere weapon anymore. In addition, it cannot be modified anymore, you know ?” (Angel)

“It’s not like I can’t change it. It’s just that I can’t contact the warlords there. This will have such a dynamic effect, Argh ! I’m an idiot !” (God)

The little girl crouched and held her head while trembling. This was because she realized that she may have caused a very big disaster. She began to think again and said,

“To think that he have such a cool Shinai !” (God)

“That’s not the problem !” (Angel)

The angel rolled her skirt and kicked the chibi’s head like a soccer ball..

In terms of brute strength, there was a big difference between the human Renya and this angel.

She hit the chibi’s head, making her body dance in the air before hitting the floor.

“T-To think that the second time came this fast..” (God)

While crawling, she touched her head and returned to the Angel.

“Even though he can’t destroy iron and mithril as if it were sugar, if it were to hit the human body or meat, it would get pulverized, yes ? What kind of ‘low attack weapon’ is that ?” (Angel)

“I see, since it’s unbreakable, it’s like a very strong rod.” (God)

“Furthermore, since magic doesn’t have a physical mass, it will be destroyed in an instant !” (Angel)

“I see. Even if magic is strong, as it has little physical resistance, it can be easily destroyed. In other words, Magic is useless against him, huh..” (God)

“For your information, there is nothing unbreakable in that world, you know?” (Angel)

Even if you searched the whole world, there was nothing like that there. That fact alone would already make that Shinai priceless. However, the chibi once again let out another stupid thought.

“As it’s bluntness was its predominantly defining attribute, I never dreamed that it would become such a dangerous weapon.” (God)

“That bluntness is the only good thing about it !” (Angel)

As it was unbreakable, it was an object that could destroy anything. Thinking about it in such a light was already scary.

“Well, it’s already happened so it’s useless to think about it. However, I would like you to forgive me because I have made it into the shape of Shinai due to my aesthetic sense.” (God)

“Argh, whatever. Do as you like, I don’t know anymore.” (Angel)

“Whatever happen, it’s something that I created ! I must at least rebuild it into something worthy !” (God)

“Argh, do whatever you like ! This super idiot God !” (Angel)

Today, the self-proclaimed God was kicked for the third time, her body dancing through the air.

CHAPTER 4

IT SEEMS THAT I IMMEDIATELY GOT INTO TROUBLE

Renya: “Ah, this is one of those, isn't it. Saying that ‘This is truly not your original world’, they provide me with a gimmick in order to make me understand it quickly and effectively. This might be one of those great things.”

After diving into the gate of light that appeared beside the little girl proclaiming herself as god, Renya, after practically no time lag, noticed himself standing somewhere in a forest, near a path that seemed to be well-tread on.

As the sides of the road became a deep forest, one could only see trees. However, above the road, the sky was clearly visible. Renya realized that where he was underneath that blue sky was a completely different place to the 94 years that he had spent his life in. This was instantly understood as two suns emitted a blinding light as they shone.

As the reality of there being two suns in the sky resulted in Renya receiving a large shock, as the color of the sky was the same blue color as the one from his memory, it simultaneously gave Renya a slight sense of relief.

As the color of the sky in a different world could equally have a chance of being, say, purple, either Renya would accept the reality before his eyes, or his spirit would become abnormal. Such an unwelcomed chicken race between which of the two would occur first may have been planted.

Thinking such thoughts, Renya began to survey his surroundings. Even though Renya was ignorant about tree species, he noticed that things such as the tree's hue would not change so drastically with his original world.

It had been determined that to some extent, Renya's common sense was still valid. Learning such was something significant for Renya.

Although his memory had been cleanly and refreshingly initialized, the experience ingrained into his body and his common sense was not so easily discarded.

On his body were short, clean white clothes and pants as well as modest shoes. He noticed that he was not wearing any kind of armaments.

Speaking of which, I didn't check how dangerous the designated world was.

While he thought thus, Renya contemplated whether it was quite dangerous for him to remain in his current attire in the middle of the woods. As he wondered thus, the word <Inventory> appeared before him.

As his line of sight selected it, a semi-transparent window, similar to the one with the world map shown to him by the little girl, opened before Renya's eyes.

The window was partitioned by 15 squares both horizontally and vertically. Within the mass, images that resembled small icons were being displayed.

Among them, Renya touched a money-like icon with his fingertip, causing information to flow into his head.

<Currency: 10 Gold Coins>

It appeared to be as it seemed. It was money.

He somehow understood that this was a parting gift from God. Wondering what the other icons contained, Renya continued to check through each of them one by one.

Cycling through his inventory window, Renya discovered that he had 10 gold coins, 12 packages of portable food, 6 Basic Wound Medication, 3 rolls of bandages, 1 Shinai⁽¹⁾, 1 set of leather armor, and 1 canteen which he could fill with water.

Although I can understand the leather armor, why a Shinai?

Wondering thus, Renya touched the icon, causing the description to flow into his head.

<Shinai: Grade 10 Artifact | Indestructible Attribute>

Wondering what in the world an artifact was, Renya tilted his neck.

An answer immediately came.

<**INFO:** Help Initiated. An Artifact is a lost handicraft. It refers to something whose

quality cannot be intentionally created by the hand of man. All artifacts have their classification become Grade 10 >

Renya admired his body as it had become so convenient.

Apparently, such a mere Shinai boasted performance that would make it seem as if belonged to the realm of the gods.

Wondering whether the leather armor was the same, he tried to touch it.

<Leather Armor: Grade 2 | Commercially Available>

As far as he could tell, this was a very ordinary item.

It would've been nice if it had the indestructible attribute. Then I'd be invincible.

As Renya thought thus disappointedly, he lightly double tapped the inventory icon. As the item retrieval dialogue box emerged, Renya unhesitatingly chose the two equipment items.

As the Leather Armor icon disappeared from the inventory, Renya's body slightly began to glow.

When the light settled, armor that protected the body appeared above his clothes. In addition, gloves that covered his arm from his elbow to his wrists were equipped onto Renya's body.

This seems to be a set.

Although Renya was dissatisfied due to his head and lower being unprotected, he convinced himself that, since it was something given to him, he could not expect too much as he began to equip the Shinai.

There was no spin on this one. This was without a doubt the Shinai that existed in Renya's knowledge.

It was 3 foot 8 inches⁽²⁾ long, this length being referred to as Sanpachi. Although it was a size that was usually used by large people, the Shinai was considerably longer than average. Even so, it was light and could be swung around easily enough. Renya thought that it would probably be more useful if it was longer.

Even so, as Renya held it, he felt unsatisfied with the explanation for some reason. Following this, another message flowed into his head.

< **INFO:** Help Initiated. Although I was supposed to give you a bladed weapon, as the weapons attributes were all Grade 10, the Angels rejected every single one. As you had experience with Kendo when you were alive, I thought you'd skilled at it, thus it was decided that the Shinai is something that would be passed to you. From God >

Rather than a Help function, isn't this just a normal mail?⁽³⁾

Although Renya suspected thus, after reading it again, he somehow consented that it was a description due to the wording.

In the first place, the question of why there was a Shinai in the kingdom of God still remained.

As Renya knew he would not receive an answer right away, he pushed it out of his mind. In exchange, his mind plunged into the matter of what he should do from now.

The Little Girl, that is to say God, gave him a request, which he was supposed to fulfill as he was sent to this time in another world.

Although he wasn't sure why, he was apparently granted a body in order to leisurely spend about a few decades wandering around, spreading things that would become resources in order to clear his mission.

As such, it was necessary for him to gather important items in order for him to live the next several decades as fun and as carefree as possible.

Renya: "First things first, unless I find some human habitat, I won't be able to get started."

Although he was shown a map of the world before he was sent, Renya was forcibly sent to this location. The person in question had no idea where he was. For the time being, however, as there was a road, Renya determined that no matter which way he followed it, he would undoubtedly be lead to civilization if he single-mindedly advanced.

If there was a problem, it would be the point of which way should he advance in order to reach civilization sooner.

Looking at his inventory, even if Renya minimized his consumption, he believed that he would barely last a few days.

Above all, as his water supply was only one bottle, it was quite severe.

If he restricted this water for drinking only, then he would be unable to use the water for other purposes. For example, there would be no water for him to wash his hands and face or wipe his body.

For Renya who was inherently Japanese, this was an extremely dire predicament.

Renya: "I guess there's no choice but to put up with it. I kinda wanted to be dropped in a more convenient place. She's completely thoughtless, the Loli bitch..."

It was probable that he was dropped down in a remote location due to concerns about witnesses. Although this was easily imaginable, Renya still couldn't stop curses coming out of his mouth.

After cursing at the little girl for a while, Renya decided that it couldn't be helped as he regained self control. Following this, he picked up an appropriate twig on the ground and stood it upright on the road.

Renya: "I'll entrust it Bootaoshi⁽⁴⁾, although this is a pretty overused saying, huh."

As he would be walking in the direction the stick fell in, his fate would be decided by the gods.

However, as Renya had just recently witnessed the little girl that claimed to be god, he suddenly became very reluctant to hand his fate over to said gods as he began to reconsider his actions.

Renya: "Now then, I wonder which way it will fall."

As Renya tried to remove his hand from the stick, it happened.

Within the silence of the surroundings, Renya's ears captured the faint voices of people.

While he braced himself, he turned towards the sound. The stick that his hand released fell in the opposite direction that Renya was facing.

It was the road that Renya had chosen. Between the two, the result was that he was to go in the opposite direction of the voices.

Renya: "What are the chances...⁽⁵⁾"

If he were to act upon his initial decision, he would begin to walk in the direction that the stick had fallen in.

Yet, the sound that Renya's ears caught was almost undoubtedly the scream of people.

Although heading to see what had happened would not cause him to lose much time, Renya still hesitated.

The fact that he heard screams meant that there was trouble in that direction.

If he were to ignore this completely and walk off in the other direction, Renya thought that this would be synonymous with running away.

However, as Renya had just come to this world, he did not have any sort of relationships. He had no reason, nor duty to take action in response to such screams.

Even so, after a short while, Renya started to run towards the direction the scream was raised.

If asked why he took such action, even Renya himself had no answer. However, should he be forced to give an explanation, rather than it being a question of good and bad, it was because the scream was proof that someone was there

If there was someone there, he would be able to ask them for directions to the nearest city.

If worst comes to worst, he would just shut his eyes to what had occurred at that spot.

As he thought to this extent, Renya decided to head towards the direction of the voice.

Upon his decision, the time for him to transfer his intention into action was quite fast.

As he armed his Shinai in his left hand, Renya took off with light feet as he focused his eyes.

Regardless of him having no memory, and regardless of his body being rejuvenated thanks to the little girl, Renya was a soul that was largely content with his death at the age of 94.

From the remaining information implanted somewhere in his memory, Renya was told that he has never run so lightly and quickly in his lifetime.

Even being able to experience this, Renya contemplated whether or not there was some meaning in answering God's request.

As he was thankful towards his body that did not run out of breath, Renya ran as he was able to immediately discern the current situation that caused the scream he had heard.

Upon viewing the scene from a long distance, he saw several men with dark skin in leather armor. He saw a woman with blonde hair wearing a priest's⁽⁶⁾ outfit. Behind said woman was a female protecting her back while brandishing a long sword. The female had long black hair, done up in a ponytail. She also had metal plates covering key body parts. The female was dressed in an attire referred to as partial armor⁽⁷⁾.



Upon seeing the situation, Renya revised his thoughts immediately.

This is not a scene where I can just avert my eyes.

If he were to truthfully state it, he could not remain on the sidelines when faced with such a situation. Of course, Renya didn't voice this.

Who cares about them?

Such thoughts crossed Renya's mind. At such a rarely seen situation, no one would be in a position to blame him if he were to carefully observe. Such thoughts naturally came to him.

As Renya himself had died at age 94, he thought that it would be alright to just walk between life and death just a little longer.

The figure of Renya approaching at a considerable velocity seemed to be immediately noticed by the people on the site.

Although the surrounding men grew slightly wary, their expressions immediately became slack as they scoffed.

The surrounded women had slightly smiled, yet, their expressions immediately turned to those of disappointment.

Although Renya headed towards the site, it suddenly turned into a pity-fest for Renya. However, as it was too late to change direction, Renya continued running.

Renya could understand their expressions to some extent.

Concerning the men, they were vigilant for a moment as they thought their enemies may have increased. Yet, upon seeing Renya, they soon determined that he was not enough of a threat.

On the other hand, the women saw a sign of help. However, upon seeing Renya, they presumed that the chance of them being saved was low.

As he was in poor leather armor and held a sword made of bamboo, Renya comforted himself by saying that such thoughts were unavoidable.

Renya noticed that there were more pressing issues than such a thing. He came to a halt a short distance from the men and women, lightly clearing his throat as he raised his voice.

Renya: “E-e~to⁽⁸⁾. Can this be resolved by discussion, huh?”

Man in Black (Armor): “What d’ya want? Dressed like that, are ya a fugitive soldier that fled from the battlefield?”

To Renya, who had spoken in a nervous voice, one of the men answered.

What Renya had been worried about, was whether or not conversation in another world could be established.

Among the various skills that Renya obtained from the little girl, he remembered that Another World’s Language was one of them. Even so, he was still anxious as the fact that he had yet to actually use it remained.

In the event that he couldn’t use another world’s language, as Renya did not know a single otherworldly word, it would look like he would be unable to establish conversations in this world. Thus, he spoke quite nervously. However, to his surprise, the meaning of Renya’s words seemed to have reached them.

This was because the words that came out of his mouth, were words that Renya had never heard before.

Even so, as he was able to learn and use the language, he was able to discern and understand what the other person was saying.

In contrast, as Renya attempted to pronounce words from his previous world, he was surprised as he realized they wouldn’t come out of his mouth.

It seems that this effect was most likely caused by the skill Another World’s Language.

Whether this was convenient or not, Renya could not properly judge at this time. Yet, for the time being, as he did not have to concern himself with his word use, he felt that this was a good result.

Man: “Oi⁽⁹⁾, the hell? Shutting up like that, did ya wet your pants?”

Renya had silently sank into deep thought after he had burst in with tremendous momentum. The men, determining that Renya had become intimidated by the surrounding situation, all raised rowdy laughter.

Renya: "Ah~, well~, about that. Wait a bit."

Not giving a damn about such laughter, Renya began to observe the women who were surrounded.

Both were women of peerless beauty that would never be seen in his original world.

The woman in the priest outfit had gently wavy hair with large, green eyes that emitted a slightly droopy feeling.

What covered her whole body was an outfit based on black, very similar to the clothing worn by those with the occupation of Sisters in Renya's original world. However, as the clothes had no adornments, it felt like gentlemen's desires were stuffed into it. The expression of 'hour-glass body'⁽¹⁰⁾ came straight to mind when looking at her body, and the interior of the clothes seemed to strain the body as it was quite tight.

No matter how you look at that, isn't it about one or two sizes off?

Renya couldn't help but think as such.

The woman who protected the 'sister' from behind was also a beauty.

Her sharp eyes were slightly angled with black pupils. She wore her jet black, long hair on a high position atop of her head.

Compared to the figure of the beauty behind her, she was inferior in terms of volume. Yet, she possessed features that richly stood out, even if a bit rough. She wore a something similar to a red hakama⁽¹¹⁾ with a black shirt. She was also dressed in iron-like shoulder pads and chest armor, along with her gloves.

His line of sight shifted towards the men.

However, Renya immediately stopped observing.

Looking at these men is boring.

Renya muttered thus under his breath. Either way, the men uniformly had dark skin and, although they had a better build compared to Renya, he confirmed that they only equipped leather armor similar to his own.

Yet, oddly enough, Renya did not feel that they were armed.

All of them were barehanded.

Although they're six of them, wouldn't the armed, black-haired woman be able to do something about this?

Although Renya had thought thus, the following words from the woman served to deepen Renya's concerns.

Hakama Woman: "I don't know who you are, but run away! These guys are uncontrollable!"

Renya: "Eh, is that so?"

Hakama Woman: "These guys are soldiers of the Mercenary Kingdom! Don't worry about us! Run away!"

Although such an explanation obviously made sense to the woman, as Renya had no grasp on this world's common sense, he could not follow such reasoning at all.

Man: "Oi, you. We're busy. As there'd be no meaning in taking those pitiful clothes off your back, if you just turn around now, I'll pretend you were never here."

Renya: "Nn~⁽¹²⁾, although that'd be fine, do you really think that I'd be such a person who'd just turn away from here right now?"

To help complete strangers without understanding their circumstances. Although it seemed that he resembled a protagonist from a story, Renya thought that this conduct was more synonymous with a dim-witted Hero.

Renya: "Ah~, right. I guess you guys'd be fools with lewd minds."

Man: "The hell's this guy saying? You're jealous so you're trying to mingle? If you want, I'll give you a shot?"

As the men frivolously laughed, the women averted their gaze.

It'd be a pain if they looked over this way.

As Renya thought such, he spoke the fatal words towards the men.

Renya: "What do you think you can do with such broken rods? Won't they break the moment you touch them?⁽¹³⁾"

Man: "Ah!?"

Oh dear, what should I do?

Renya's previous expression that seemed to express thus, completely changed as it was replaced with a shade of murderous intent.

Although Renya would claim that he spoke such words on impulse, in actuality, he emitted those words as they had uttered something that he could not forgive.

Man: "I dare you to say that again!"

Renya: "What's your problem...? Wouldn't such pitiful rods break after a single touch?"

Suddenly, Renya's voice had chilled. Although the men dominated him in numbers, Renya simply repeated the words he had previously spoken.

Renya gripped his Shinai in silence as he pointed it towards the man.

Man: "The hell's this, you bastard!?"

Renya: "I'll let grab it. I'll thoroughly beat you to a pulp afterwards so prepare yourself."

As Renya fired of those words coldly, the men answered in laughter.

Man: "Are you a fucking idiot!? As if that stick would be a match for us!? And you said that you'll let us grab it? Do you really think you can beat us up after we're done with you?"

(Another) Man: "Has this guy lost it?"

Man: "Being stupid is amusing! Alright, I'll grab it so start regretting your stupidity."

The man the tip of the Shinai was pointing to clasped it casually with his right hand.

Man: "There you go, I grabbed it!"

Perhaps the man was going to forcefully pull the Shinai he was holding in order to launch an attack on Renya.

However, Renya's actions exceeded the man's expectations.

The moment the Shinai was grasped, Renya quickly twisted the handle with both hands.

In the first place, the handle of the Shinai is thicker than its tip.

Renya and the man were holding the thick and thin side of the Shinai respectively. Even if both sides exerted force strongly onto the Shinai, it was natural that the advantage would belong to the one of the thicker side.

As long as there was no compelling difference in force, the Shinai would continue to rotate.

As the Shinai began to rotate within the man's hand, Renya immediately pulled it backwards.

What Renya had performed was simply twisting and pulling the Shinai at the same time. However, that was enough to be able to rip the Shinai from the man's grasp.

Man: "Eh?"

It was likely that the man had considerable confidence in his strength.

Yet, as he had the Shinai easily taken away from him, he could not comprehend the spectacle that had occurred before his eyes.

Renya was not such a kind person as to wait for the man's understanding to catch up with reality.

As he withdrew the Shinai, Renya sharply and thoroughly thrust the Shinai towards

the man's throat.

The tip of the Shinai rushed forward as it possessed the weight force of one person. As the man stood stunned, the Shinai pierced the man's throat, sending him flying backwards.

As the surrounding onlookers could only stare without comprehending what had just occurred, Renya remained wary as he poised his stance. His low voice resonated.

Renya: "This is a sword, not a stick. It doesn't matter what it's made out of."

Man: "Bastard, this..."

The man who kept calling Renya bastard was clutching his stomach and choking on his drool while rolling on the ground.

They had not understood at all.

The fact was, they were within Renya's killing range.

Renya rushed towards the remaining, immobile men that were taken aback.

As he counterattacked, Renya's Shinai tore through space at a speed that did not even give them a chance to defend. Between the eyebrows, the throat, the solar plexus, the bottom of the nose. As he pierced these vital points cleanly and quickly, it did not take much time for all of the men's eyes to be covered in white.

Renya: "I'm not sure if you can even hear me now."

As he maintained unrelaxed alertness, Renya spoke as he placed the Shinai neatly on his left hip.

Renya: "Even though it looks like this, it is a weapon. This has the proper capabilities to kill. The reason the thrust techniques is prohibited up until a certain age is not just for show."

Whether it was in fencing or Kendo, the move possessing the most killing power is the thrust technique.

Even though Japanese swords would have their sharpness grow dull after slicing

several people, the thrust was so powerful that it could kill dozens of people without its power falling.

Even if such power was translated to a Shinai, it still had the hidden potential to kill a man during a match.

Renya: "For the most part, I was wondering how you guys were gonna try and hit me but, to think there were actually idiots who would fight barehanded against someone with a light, non-bladed weapon. Before belittling people, you guys would be better off if you just thought a little."

As Renya thought they would not hear him, he spat out these words.

Renya's thrusts were not of the average technique. As he thrust, he slightly twisted the Shinai, increasing the feeling of penetration force.

In addition, although Renya was unaware, he was targeting vital points of the opponent that were capable of being destroyed. When hit with the Shinai, which possessed the indestructible attribute, no matter how much the opponent trained, it would be worthless as the Shinai possessed the power to unilaterally destroy anything that was breakable.

I wonder how many died?

As Renya noticed he might have committed the act of murder, he noticed that his feelings were completely undisturbed.

Renya: "...I might just wither up in a place like this."

Without even batting an eye, Renya overlooked the six men. Renya simply shrugged his shoulders as he thought his way of thinking was amusing.

Author Note:

The paragraph about the Shinai was knowledge learnt a long time ago when I learned Kendo.

If the tip of the Shinai had a splinter when doing this, the palm would be covered in blood...

The Thrust Technique is really dangerous.

It's so dangerous that one is prohibited to use it until high school.

Although there are brutes that gleefully pick up the technique as soon as they become a high school student...the reality is, they use it in places without armor, though...

CHAPTER 5

IT SEEMS I GOT TO KNOW SOMEONE

Renya again investigates the defeated men in the surroundings.

It would be troublesome if they were pretending to be dead and retaliated while he was distracted, but the fallen men had their consciousness completely stolen. As such, there was no indication that the men would be waking up any time soon.

The first and the middle two men, whose throats he had hit, had the bones in their neck broken and the necks cut, although Reyna did not feel guilty, because he was somewhat in a rush.

“I wonder if there is a concept of something like a legitimate defense in this world?”

“Ano...”*

Upon hearing this voice, he turned around to see the priestess coming closer together with the armored woman.

Upon a closer look, it looked like the two people would be best described as beautiful girls rather than beautiful women, according to their ages.

In comparison to the girl wearing armor, who gave off an air* of outright caution, the girl wearing priest's clothes showed her sincerity by bowing deeply to Renya.

“Thank you for saving us.”

“Well it might have been unnecessary,” says Renya, as he looked towards the girl wearing armor.

When I jumped in to help, from the fact that I was told to run away, it might have been possible that in that situation that girl alone might have been able to do something.

The unruly words said by these guys had been missing the subject, that ‘mine’ and ‘yours’ will greatly vary the story.

Did she guess Renya's thoughts? Nevertheless, remaining cautious, the girl wearing armor did so only lightly, but still bowed her head.

"I am thankful for your help, I am afraid that I alone would not have been able to do anything."

"Even if there were 6 guys, these guys were barehanded, you know."

All of the enemies had been defeated in a completely one-sided battle, hence Renya posed such a question. The girl wearing armor looked slightly surprised and answered with a smile.

"Do you not know about the soldiers of the Mercenary Kingdom? These guys are experts in fighting with bare hands. They can defeat armed soldiers and experts in grappling."

It does not seem like it. While thinking this, Renya drops his gaze towards the fallen men.

Certainly, the body had been fairly disciplined, but you would not think that they would have been able to fight equally with properly trained and armed soldiers. But, if the residents of this world think so, perhaps they have some means to fight. I wonder.

A challenging expert barehanded soldier. Thinking this, Renya was amazed, and to a degree, the air of caution faded from the girl wearing armor.

"You are a somewhat strange person."

"It can be helped if you are cautious; I am... Oh, yes, someone who you might call a wanderer."

If identified as such, somehow one might be able to understand his circumstances, thought Renya while remembering what the little girl had said. The expressions on the faces of the two changed from being surprised to interested.

"So, a wanderer? I have heard of lost people, before but it's my first time meeting one."

"If you are a wanderer, certainly it's not unreasonable for you to not know about the mercenary kingdom."

“More importantly than convincing you, I am called Kunugi Renya.”

Relaxing his mind that the little girl did not lie, Renya gave his name to the two girls who were easily convinced with the situation. Panicking a little, the two girls lowered their heads.

“Sorry for the delay, I am Monk apprentice Rona Chevalier.”

“Swordsman apprentice, Zion Femme Fatale. Is Kunugi-dono alright with you?”

“Uh... my name is Renya, without the -dono, Renya is fine. For the time being, shall we change the location? Because four of these guys are still alive, and I have no idea when they will wake up.”

With serious faces, the two girls in an undertone were mumbling, “Ren ‘Nya? Lenya? Re re..... nuya?” While saying these things repeatedly and attempting to pronounce his name, the two immediately nodded to Renya proposal.

“That’s right, let’s head out towards the forest at once.”

“What do we do with these guys.”

“It’s alright with the two dead guys, but is it alright to leave the 4 who were unconscious?” Renya questioned, and Rona carelessly answered,

“In this forest, even if they were left for just 10 minutes, they won’t have any life left.”

“This place is the Eastern Continent’s Miasmatic Forest’s westernmost part. It is a treasure-trove of monsters, and this is still a shallow location. People do not know this, but plants that eat people also grow here.”

What! That’s scary, Renya thought. Was it really okay, even if hearing this from the two people who, without even glancing at the fallen men, started walking? Somehow, Renya felt intimidated knowing that they were going to die, and that one wrong move and he would be the one laying there. He pressed his hands together to pray for their souls.

“Wanderer Renya-san, how long has it been since you came here?”

While walking, I replied promptly to Rona.

“Only just now.”

“So you just came here? That’s amazing, you know.”

Even when showered with words of admiration, Renya had no idea what was so amazing. While he thought this, he watched the backs of the people in front of him and hurried to catch up.

Zion turned her head around and gave a compliment.

“Normally when lost people come here, it’s mostly out of confusion. But to defeat to defeat soldiers who had been trained in movements and such, that point is what’s amazing,’ is what ‘Ro’ is saying.”

“Ro?”

“People who are close to me call me as such.”

Rona told me while smiling..

“I see; so Rona-san and Zion-san, why are you in such a place?”

Predictably not using the nickname, Renya inquired of Rona who had a surprised look.

“Ara, after listening that much, you still call me by that name.”

“I am not so arrogant that I would call a woman I just met by her nickname or without any honorifics.”

“Well, showing courtesy is an obvious thing to do. “

In contrast to Zion, who said this while nodding, Rona was somewhat disappointed.

Their state is far too defenseless. Is it really alright for these girls to be so fluttery (furafura) in a place like this? worried Renya.

“I have never quite been called by a guy in such a manner.”

“I do not want to die yet.”

Rona did not understand Renya's answer. While Rona was tilting her head Zion who was besides her was impressed, and answered.

"A good guess."

From what Renya saw, these two people had a pretty good relationship, which could be immediately seen from the fact that Zion called Rona by her nickname. Renya went further, and deduced that Zion had a specific standing of being Rona's guardian.

For a while now, the one who has done most of the talking is Rona, while Zion only sometimes pipes up. Rona tries to roughly keep the conversation onto herself.

This is because Rona is less cautious, and would easily trust Renya on the basis that he had helped them, and as such didn't have a dangerous personality. Zion, on the other hand, had a strong sense of caution and was still thinking of Renya as a suspicious person, or so he thought.

When thinking this way, the answer to who was the guardian and who was being protected will come naturally.

If he went on with a horribly saucy attitude, most likely what would await him would be a tough blow from Zion, was what Renya thought, hence the exchange earlier happened.

"Both of us belong to the Adventurer's Guild of the Trident Principality. We came here at the request of the guild for the investigation and suppression of the goblin settlements."

Perhaps knowing that Renya was a human who understood his own standing, Zion spoke on her own.

"We received a report that in a village of settlers just outside the forest, the damage caused by goblins had increased."

Since he was catching words he had never heard before, Renya tried to organize things in his head.

It seems that Trident Principality is the name of a country somewhere, and also the place where these two people live.

Renya was not quite able to imagine the said words, “Adventurer’s Guild.” According to his knowledge, a guild was where people with similar profession gathered to form a mutual aid organization.

If this knowledge was applied, the organization has asked these two to work in the form of a request.

He had no idea what the word goblin referred to, but he had the help function he had gotten from God, which worked very conveniently to give him the information.

<The Goblin is a humanoid monster standing tall at 1m, the color of its skin is a variable shade of green.

Has a very ugly appearance. Almost no hair. Although they live in groups of 20, they have no such thing as culture. Almost no females, usually breed by mating with females of other species with high fertility rate. Can mate with all humanoid species other than Elves. Are omnivores. Sometimes an individual with high Intelligence is born and may lead a population of up to 100. That said, it’s common knowledge for those who play games, yo.

Bye>

That last line was unnecessary. The number of times I am going to hit you when we meet again has increased by 1, Renya vowed in his heart.

“I hope I am wrong, but a goblin is a monster that creates groups, right?”

“That is so, their individual combat is very low, but they become troublesome when they group together.”

“This investigation with only two people?”

That would be reckless, Renya thought.

Moreover, if you look at its description, one would know that this monster has a downright troublesome nature to abduct females of other species.

It was not a request that could be received by a party of only two females. That was what Renya thought. When he looked at them, their expressions were pale.

“Originally it was a party of 8.”

On hearing Zion’s answer Renya performed simple calculation $8-2=6$. In other words 6 people were somewhere else. Earlier the number of men he had crushed was 6 was it a coincidence.

“As you might have guessed, those people earlier had received the same request.”

6 people, all of whom were soldiers from a country called the Mercenary Kingdom. Renya recalled what Zion had said.

In other words, from the start, the 6 people were comrades. This time, Zion’s group had joined them because of the request.

In a dim forest away from human eyes, the people who were comrades were the men, while the two beautiful girls were not.

The simple thought of doing something dirty to them was easily understood by Renya.

“...Such misfortune.”

“I really, really think so.”

At Renya’s words of comfort the two nodded wholeheartedly, But looking from Renya’s point of view it was not impossible to understand the thoughts of those men.

If one looked closely one would find that two beautiful girls, one who was trained and had style while the other was [muchimuchi] and [purinpurin.]*

It was precisely because I was walking behind that I knew. When looking from the back it seemed like something with tremendous sense of weight was shaking, up and down, left and right with a [boing boing] effect, and of course, as a man, several hundred evil thoughts were bound to appear.

But to act upon them was a different matter altogether.

“So, where do you plan on going?”

Renya said this while being careful not to look at a key area.

“We plan on returning to the village, which we were asked to use as our base.”

“Actually, the place we need to return to is the Principality, but it takes two days on horse carriage to go there, and another two to return.”

As expected, it would be impossible for two people to subdue the goblin population. While thinking this, Renya was met with surprising words from Zion.

“I ask that Renya stay at the village and wait for the next carriage.”

“Although suppression is now impossible, we need to at least investigate. Otherwise, we would not be able to return, even if we wanted to.”

“No! That’s too reckless.”

Rona was dressed in a priest’s grab which was not suited for quick movements.

Zion wore fighting equipment for the time being, but it did not seem suitable to Renya for a light investigation.

“Although it is reckless, returning without producing results will hinder us in future.”

“You are dead if you underestimate the adventurer profession.”

“6 out of 8 people were strangers. To come up with such a setting, doesn’t the problem lie with the Guild?” Renya tried to say this by Zion shook her head from side to side.

“Certainly, it was the Guild’s oversight to not do a prior investigation, but I will not wait two days just to report it. If in that time the damage caused by goblins increased, the people of the village will be injured.”

“That is certainly so.”

Still, their own death was like putting the cart in front of the horse. Put dying aside, if they were captured by Goblins and used in helping to increase their numbers, it would not even be a funny story, Renya thought, but looking at their determination, Renya had no choice but to give up on changing their minds.

“Okay then, can I help out?”

Renya called out, expecting that he was most likely going to be rejected, but it would leave a bad taste in his mouth if he were to abandon them, or pretend he didn't know anything.

The two girls whispered to each other for a while, and then Zion asked Renya.

“Is it alright? We will survive, but you do not belong to the Guild, so things like a reward will not be given.”

“It's alright. I really don't care, but in exchange, if you could teach me various things about this world, it would be very helpful.”

“As a reward for life threatening work, doesn't that sound cheap?”

Once again Zion had that aura of caution around her again. Just earlier, such a thing had happened. It is obvious that she would be alert with a man travelling with them. Renya sighed.

“Well, it's like that but...”

“Information is what people who have find cheap and minor, while people who don't have it find it to be valuable.”

Towards Renya, who had given such an unbelievable, reason Zion was still suspicious while Rona, laughing unceremoniously , said,

“It's alright, Renya-san is surely a good person.”

To the laughing Rona, the unsatisfied Zion said,

“Really! I guess I have to accept to repay the favour.”

Even when he got his proposal accepted, Renya thought, *wanting them to trust me might be impossible*, and looked up at the sky.

CHAPTER 5.5

IT SEEMS TO BE INTERLUDE 2

“Lord, what kind of person was Kunugi Renya?”

In response to the sudden question posed to me, I diverted my attention from work and looked in the direction of the voice.

The most troublesome things are those that are generated one after another, where if you crush one problem, another issue shows up, which results in feeling like you are playing a continuous game of Whack-a-Mole.

What I was doing now was, in a world where the Hero and his party truly believe that they can change the world with the strength of their willpower. Their power really is exceeding that of the Administrator, thus they are in a situation where they can truly change the world. I received a help request from the Administrator there, so for the time being I gave the administrator there some more power and I also had to work to increase the power of the Demon Lord to the point that when the Hero and co. confront the Demon Lord, they do not die, but have their hearts feel miserable to a breaking point.

To this idiot who had pointlessly increased my work, I won't even bother to raise my hand to punish him, but instead I'll have him continue his work for another 1000+ years.

Of course, the one who lent the Demon Lord power was me.

By now, the Demon Lord himself must be wondering and looking for an answer as to how he was able to fight off the Hero and his party.

If you look at it normally, by now the Demon Lord should have been defeated by the Hero, and the Hero should have returned triumphantly to the kingdom.

But I think that this scenario not happening is the severity of reality.

To create a world where everyone gets along is indeed a great idea, but a world is something which is made thanks to someone crying somewhere and wanting to be

something. Someone somewhere once said that being an Administrator is like having the misfortune to give work to an indefinite number of people.

If the world could be made with ideals, an existence such as myself would not be needed, and there'd be no need for me to endlessly continue to work and adjust the world.

Even though I say that, if the Hero and his party is wiped out, another Hero will be needed to maintain an equilibrium. Somehow, not wanting to increase my work, I compromised and only weakened the party.

people pray to God for help, but I am God. Who am I supposed to offer my prayers to? Even then, what should I pray for?

"De, what were we talking about?"

"Lord, exactly where the hell did you derail to?"

I saw the tired face of the blonde beauty.

"I derail where I want."

"Please return to the main point."

The blonde beauty retorts back coldly. This pissed me off, and I was thinking about to changing her into a frog, or making her reincarnate into an insect but stopped, as its would only increase my workload. Hence there is no meaning in doing this and I will only get pointlessly tired.

Okay, okay, alright, I will return to the main point, just let me concentrate on my work, as I won't be able to come back from the main point for the next 360 billion seconds. (11,415 years for reference.)

Anyway, why are you telling me to get back to the point when you want to talk, but you do not even remember that? I wonder what's wrong with the way of education. 24 sec had gone by while I was thinking about such things.

Now I have lost approximately 0.000000006%. What a waste, I don't even want to care. AGH! So troublesome.

“Lord.”

“Like I said, WHAT!? eh? Ah, Kunugi ...oh. That old man.”

After yelling and saying a few words, I finally understood who she was talking about, and stopped my work for a while.

“If it’s about that old man, I don’t know.”

“Eh?”

“His cause of death was quite straight forward when his soul was extracted, As to what type of person he was, I did not look into it. I did look at some of his data, though. It seems that he was a gourmet.”

If there was no data, I would not have known how to persuade that old man to go to the other world.

He might have had some regrets in his previous world, so I cleared his soul, but now I am reflecting on it, as sometimes it might be good, but it can also be bad.

“Was it really alright to send him to another world in such a situation?”

“Is there a reason not to?”

With a serious expression on her face, subordinate A is loss for words.

I have no idea what is so shocking.

“Just like how a pebble thrown in the sea won’t cause a tsunami, what is such a big deal in sending him without investigating?”

“Well, since I am responsible for sending him, help me investigate a bit.”

“What do you mean, ‘help?’ If you were to search for his history, wouldn’t It come up immediately?”

Ah! that’s also an option. All I need is to pull up the history on his soul.

Kunugi Renya

Human race , Age:94

Current resource file number: 9201-0846-2525-4985

former world number: 8190—9753—1414—3878

No special events mentioned

14th family head of kunugi one sword flow style.

An accomplished kendoist since childhood, at the age of 13 he takes up swordsmanship, hence allowing his talent to bloom.

At 15 years old, moved to mainland China for warrior training by taking part in the underground society.

He killed a large number of people using a single sword, hence was called by the nickname of “**sword demon**”

The number of people he killed in the underground society activities caps at 912 people in five years.

Then, he served in World War II.

The number of people he killed during the war period of four years was 3712 people. The number of people he killed during the war period of four years with his blade alone was 3712 people.

Hence the name, “**Blade ogre**”.

After the war, became the next family head of Kunugi one sword flow style, spent time training and learning other sword styles.

Carried out performances of swordsmanship through demonstrations in various places, and quickly made the Kunugi one sword flow style widely known which lead to having 49 dojos in japan and abroad.

In His later years became a swordsmith, having the inscription of “ka Ren”(lotus petal), was known as the human national treasure.

Also was a known gourmet, had a high affinity for cuisine.

lived to the age of 94 years and 127 days, and died of old age.

Life Kills, 5730 people.

“..... real cheat kita?”*

“Why are you talking like that, Lord?”

Raising my line of sight from the window, which displayed the written information to me, I denoted it in a surprised manner and my subordinate dropped a tsukkomi* immediately.

I’m sure that right now, I must have a very blank look.

“What’s this!? In spite of being chosen appropriately, it’s a ridiculous life, isn’t it!?”

“To kill five thousand or more people with only a sword, but it impossible!? T-teka*, he must have killed about four digits from celebrating the end of the war, this man!”

“It must have been exceptionally well-concealed.”

“Come to think of it, the data had no disclaimer of him being a criminal!”

Information was to be displayed with a special note if one had a criminal record.

By the way, the crime record, which is displayed here, is according to the law of that world.

If it is not done so, every human will have a criminal record for killing countless lifeforms.

Because this person’s original world had several billion human beings, the killing of about five thousand people would not have much influence in the world.

However, he was sent to a place where the world's population is, at best, around 10 million.*

A person that can kill 5,000 people with his own skills, plus I gave further cheat-like skills to the one I sent.

“Instead of a pebble, that was a nuclear bomb!”

“A tsunami is most likely going to occur.”

To subordinate A, who leisurely replied, I sent murderous intent.

...But stopped, as it might end up hurting, and my work would be delayed, and it would also be troublesome because the amount of time I need to spend working would increase.

“Subordinate A, your name?”

“It is not set, but?”

“..... hmm fix your appearance. Afterwards, I will give you a name”

“What? What on earth is...”

Opening the settings window of the panicking Subordinate A, I start making changes.

First of all, I wonder why the subordinates are all blond women.

Certainly, initially I was making them with a certain degree of difference, but it started becoming troublesome as it continued, and I decided to mass-produce copies based on a template.

But it somehow seemed the old man did not like blond women, so I will change the hair to black, with the hairstyle of tails, somewhat conservative, age setting of around 18 years old, and I'll change the voice a bit.

“From today onwards you will be Giliel (gi-ri-e-ru), because you are an archangel. Go to that world and serve as Renya's archangel and continue as normal.”

“Eh? Please do not increase my work.”

功刀 蓮弥 人族 享年94歳。

現在リソース不足の9201-0846-2525

-4989へリソース充填のため、演習中。

元の世界番号は8

-1414-3878

界渡り前は、功

幼少より剣道

その才能を開花

15歳より

刀一本で大

「剣鬼」の異名

黒社会活動中

その後、世界大

4年間の従軍期

「ブレードオーガ」

終戦後は功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。

功刀流の家督

後進の育成や、剣術の普及

各所で公演や剣術実

演習中。



The revised Subordinate A replied with a genuinely unpleasant face. The angel I named Giliel settled down when I glanced at her, and asked me reluctantly.

“But is it really okay? All of the Administrators of that world will not like it, you know.”

“To send an angel is not a problem. And, because it is only to give refuge to individuals, they can’t complain, nor can they get in the way”

“If that is so, wouldn’t it have been better to send an angel to get the resources?”

To Giliel, who came up with the bright idea, I jumped and dropped a fist on her head.

Since I changed the form of the girl, the height difference is somewhat of an inconvenience, but because another figure is particularly hard to think of, I am going to leave it as it is.

“But you angels will not be able to reside on the ground!”

“Oh, that is also true.”

“Quickly go, without nitpicking! Give that old man some help, and do not be unreasonable! If you are unreasonable and reckless I will stop you! All right?”

“I will act accordingly.”

The reply was missing the excitement, but it can’t be helped if my subordinates lack motivation – since I, as the one who made them, also lacked motivation. But still, she lowered her head, indicating that she will go as ordered. Incidentally, I added another order.

“And that shinai* – at a proper time, change its shape to that of a sword (katana).”

“Timing and reason is very important, I see. I will try my best”

I resumed my work after seeing the angel off.

CHAPTER 6

IT SEEMS THERE IS A STORM AHEAD

There was no one opposing Shion's suggestion to return to the village for now.

Because they were in a forest Renya had lost his track of time. If they were to keep searching the sun would set upon them which would be dangerous according to Shion as Goblins were nocturnal.

Animals and Monsters were all nocturnal which was astonishing new information to Renya. However, Shion asserted this to be common knowledge.

"Nevertheless I will act during the daytime."

said Shion while searching the luggage left in the rented house which was used as operational base.

The luggage of the six mercenaries who were left behind in the forest contained an considerable amount of items.

Returning to the village, the villagers were surprised to see the number of adventurers to have dropped by six people. Shion told them that after they got separated on the way their whereabouts were lost.

"We can't really tell them that they got beaten up and left behind in the forest after having attacked us, now can we?" (Shion)

"Will you report this to the guild in the same fashion?" (Renya)

When Renya asked this, Shion immediately denied this.

"I cannot lie to the guild. I will report the truth to them." (Shion)

“Won’t I be treated as a criminal then though?” (Renya)

asked Renya worriedly regarding treatment of murder in this world.

His concern was not so much about being a criminal though but more regarding the troublesome restrictions being treated as one.

However, Shion simply rejected his worries.

“No problem. Because Ro and I will act as witnesses. The testimony of those accompanying when the incident took place while acting on the request is regarded as the strongest evidence.” (Shion)

“Because these kind of people usually conduct themselves badly, one gets acquitted immediately if the circumstances are explained properly.” (Rona)

Rona interjects while still rummaging through the contents of the luggage. Judging by the way she is talking, this seems to be restricted to a certain degree, causing Renya increasingly to look dejected.

“At any rate, these fellows ... I can’t find any weapons in these.” (Shion)

“It is impossible to use anything from this. Since the changes of cloth are useless at this point too, let’s just burn everything.” (Rona)

The fireplace was lit up and the two threw the unnecessary luggage into the burning fire.

Towards this too appropriate treatment, Renya silently prayed for the 6 people who very likely departed this world already.

“Are you looking for something?” (Renya)

Renya asked while watching the luggage burning down to ash mercilessly.

“Proper money and goods. I thought we need this and Renya should have a proper weapon.” (Shion)

Although this is completely the way a thief talks, Shion drew a blade lightly. Renya pointed to his shinai but Shion discarded his motion simply.

“I do understand your hesitation but you should still use a weapon with a proper blade, Renya.” (Shion)

While it may be a complete change of style compared to using the shinai for Renya, Shion claimed it to be foolish to rely only on thrusting attacks in combat.

“If your attacks are limited to only stabbing, your attack range will be rather narrow.” (Shion)

“But with his kind of movement I don’t think he will have any problems.” (Rona)

responds Rona towards Shions argument. However Shion denied this right away.

“Using only piercing attacks is problematic. Combining it with slashing attacks will make fights easier and give him more options. Therefore he should change his weapon.” (Shion)

“Well, such a way of thinking is possible too.” (Rona)

“Hey, is there no other option than me passing Renya my spare weapon?” (Shion)

“Umm .. well .. there will be no problem with him using it, I think.” (Rona)

Rona somehow judged after taking a moment to decide. Shion didn’t seem to mind it either as she took out a longsword from her bag and passed it to Renya.

Upon receiving the longsword from Shion, Renya drew the blade from its sheath. Levelling the longsword horizontally in his right hand with a firm grip, Renya focussed his attention on the blade.

After assessing the edge for a while, Renya returned the sword into its sheath. One could see that his hands were fully accustomed to the action of drawing and redrawing a sword.

“How is it?” (Shion)

“Well, the sword is sufficient enough.” (Renya)

Renya answered Shions question flatly.

Truthfully he was very dissatisfied with the quality of this longsword though.

The blade was crude without any decorations trimmed only towards its practical use. The iron used for the blade was of inferior quality devoiding the blade of any feeling of life within it.

The edge of the sword was sharpened only to a certain degree. Making one doubt whether cutting anything with it was possible at all.

Renya remembered that weapons were used for crushing rather than slicing when paired up against full plate armour in the medieval times on earth.

It is very likely that the crafting skill advanced only this far resembling this motion and thus there was no other way than using the sword similarly.

In contrast to the poor blade, the quality of the hilt was magnificent.

Because useless decoration on the hilt only leads to inconvenient handling, only thin tanned leather stripes were wrapped around the hilt.

The sword guard displayed two intertwined dragons using respectively gold and silver to depict them, having them face each other in the centre of the guard serving as crest.

“Part of the hilt looks to me remarkably expensive.” (Renya)

“Though the blade was broken several times, the hilt portion was handed down as legacy. I am no match for your discerning eye.” (Shion)

Shion admits wearing a slightly mortified expression.

Even though Renya was still somehow dissatisfied with the sword he accepted Shions sacrifice to lent him something precious. Not using the sword would be rude thus he stored his shinai in the inventory.

“Oh, how enviable to possess [Inventory].” (Rona)

“That’s true. It is a skill which causes requests to carry payload to flood in with only that.” (Shion)

The two women raised their voices in admiration seeing the shinai disappearing into the void.

As Renya didn’t comprehend their excitement he looked at them with a questioning look. Shion then explained.

“Just now that weapon was put away in empty space, right? It is a skill called [Inventory]. There are very few possessing this skill.” (Shion)

“Rumors say the amount of items that can be stored away is limited. Still it an enviable skill as it totally disregards weight restrictions.” (Rona)

Renya looked down on the luggage spread on the floor.

At first it was planned to finish investigating before the next regular carriage arrives in two days, thus the amount of luggage for two people was reasonable making it possible to simply shoulder it.

Small tools for maintenance, food, water, ointments and equipment were particularly visible. Most likely the rest of space not visible was used up by changes of clothes and similar.

Considering that these two were moving around a lot to different places it was easily understandable that possessing a skill which allowed them to not carry the luggage all the time was indeed enviable.

“To return by foot, do you two want me to carry your luggage using [Inventory]?” (Renya)

“That would be very helpful as it would save us some of the faring expenses.” (Rona)

The fare expenses for using the carriage seem to be decided by the weight including the luggage rather than the number of people boarding. Rona might say that but it is not like everything is measured exactly.

The carriage driver decides the price by the equipment worn and the additional baggage included.

“That is an easy task. But before that we have to finish investigating safely.” (Renya)

“That’s true. Our opponents may be goblins, nonetheless one has to be careful.” (Shion)

“Since the terrain is unfamiliar to us.” (Renya)

Although it was vaguely called an investigation, but as there are no maps available for the area, it is mostly wandering aimlessly through the forest until the goblin settlement was found by a stroke of luck. Shion explains the basic outline. Alternatively one could follow goblins who were hunting for food, using them to calculate the position of the goblin settlement, it seems. Without a map of the forest deriving the location from accumulated information might be quite difficult though.

To confirm the situation once more Renya started to open his mouth but suddenly he felt a chill down his neck making him stiffen his back. Rubbing his neck with right hand, Renya approached the window.

The crafting technology to produce glass seemed to have developed in this world. Although its quality was not comparable to earth, rather the glass here was murky and uneven. Nevertheless one could still see the outside with this degree of transparency. Through the window you could see that it would be very soon night as the red glow of the sunset had faded already and it got dusky.

The rented house was facing towards the outskirts of the village. The defensive wall which was set up had approximately the same height as the trees. Not too far away from the wall the black silhouette of the forest was slightly visible. Even though Renya strained his eyes, he couldn’t see anything within that dark mass. But if Renya was to trust his intuition there was something definitely there.

“What’s wrong, Renya?” (Shion)

Shion inquired, noticing his grim face as he was watching intently at the forest.

“I am not sure but there is something in the forest.” (Renya)

“Is this another of your skills?” (Shion)

Shion walked next to Renya taking a look outside towards the forest. Tilting her head looking doubtfully she asked Renya.

After a short while of pondering over the matter Renya shook his head.

“It is no skill but more of a feeling.” (Renya)

“Intuition, huh?” (Shion)

“Ah, I’m pretty sure about it though.” (Renya)

Even if his memories were wiped by god, his acquired senses were not. Renya was determined to believe in his intuition.

“I don’t sense nor see anything but if Renya says so, it may be worth to check it out. Ro, can I entrust it to you?” (Shion)

“Yes, no problem.” (Rona)

Shion asked Rona turning around to her. Rona nodded and folded both hands in front of her chest.

This pose caused her bountiful chest to be pushed up emphasizing it furthermore. Realising this, Renya shook his head lightly as now was not the time to think about that.

Renya carefully watched Rona as she fluently recited the spell words.

“I beseech you.

In my belief to our holy Lord.

Identify the being disturbing our peace.” (Rona)

Renya perceived a powerful wave spreading from Ronas folded hands. Like the sonar of a submarine it quickly spread over a wide area and converged just as fast back into

Ronas clasped hands.

As the wave converged Rona looked up to Renya.

“There is something hostile within the forest for sure. Even more so there is quite a number of them. Probably 50 or more though I am not quite sure. It seems there are quite a few outside the perception range too.” (Rona)

“This is ... ?” (Renya)

Even though it was clearly visible, Renya didn't understand what happened.

“It is the magic practised by priests who serve a god. If there is someone with malicious intent in range of the spell the caster will be able to tell. Still ... 50 or more? What the hell is going on ...” (Shion)

“There is miasma gathering in the forest which causes this many of them to crowd together.” (Rona)

“... This is bad. There is a commander leading the goblins, huh?” (Shion)

Upon Shions words Renya remembered the information he had seen in the Help before returning to the village.

It said that sometimes there are rare cases of monsters born with high individual ability who would gather a large group.

“For now, Ro, please hurry to the village chief. Those able to fight have to prepare while the women and children have to be evacuated.” (Shion)

“Right away.” (Rona)

Rona answered while starting to run.

Seeing Rona off Shion turned around to Renya.

“Our bad luck seems to continue. Will you help out too?” (Shion)

You could feel from the questioning tone that there was no room for refusal.

Renya could pretty much tell that the situation was quite bad.

“Do you think they will attack?” (Renya)

Renya asked which Shion confirmed right away.

“With a number of 50 or more gathered, the possibility of a scouting party is non-existent. If they are working under a commander even more so.” (Shion)

“What’s the degree of difference in military power?” (Renya)

“The current population of this village is slightly over 50 people. From those only 10 young man would be able to fight. This leaves us at pretty disadvantageous odds of 13 against 50 including us.

Moreover the men of the village have not received any combat training if the situation becomes one versus many in contrast to one versus one fights.” (Shion)

“And if we loose?” (Renya)

“I don’t want to imagine it.” (Shion)

Shion replies making a bitter face.

“Once the village is taken over, those guys will consider humans as fodder. The young women if not dead by then will wish they were considering the things they will experience.” (Shion)

“Yahoo, a future with many children is waiting. The AV development is deep blue too.” (Renya) *(T/N: Not quite sure, but I guess “deep blue = Rape/Netorare”, oh and AV = Adult Video.)*

Renya uttered in jest, not meaning it earnestly though. Although one might say that’s the way life goes. I don’t think there is AV in this world though.

But, however you might put it, it left a bad taste from the bottom of the heart.

“Please don’t joke about it, it is not very funny.” (Shion)

“Is that so? Hmm, I guess so ... we can ponder about what’s to come afterwards once it’s over.” (Renya)

“Somehow ... the tension has become weird, hasn’t it? If you ...” (Shion)

Shion raises her voice lightly being astonished while taking a long hard look on Renyas face.

“Why ... Are you laughing?” (Shion)

Unconsciously Renyas corners of the mouth were raised which he covered with his hands after it being pointed out. Certainly, it seems I am aware of myself smiling.

Even so, you can’t say it was a good smiling face.

“Why? ... You ask. How to put it ...” (Renya)

After thinking for a moment what to say, Renya continued.

“After all, the fight is interesting because it is disadvantageous, isn’t it?” (Renya)

CHAPTER 7

IT SEEMS TO BE A DEFENSIVE BATTLE

The invasion started at sunset. Leaping out from the shadows of the dark forest was a flood of figures who appeared to be goblins. Within that darkness the countless fiery red eyes shone threateningly reflecting the little light that was left. Their numbers were so plentiful that one could not understand how Rona could have only mentioned a meagre 50.

Opposing them was the side of the pioneer's village. Inside the fortress those on defensive duty were spread around several watch fires which illuminated the vicinity guaranteeing them sight within the deep night.

Shion's group was positioned as vanguard while the young men of the village, who were equipped with arms such as axes and bows, laid in wait behind them.

While the darkness of the night supported the attacking demons, the humans had no such advantage. Thus it was decided for Rona to cast Illumination magic once the battle began to shed light upon the battlefield.

However it was uncertain whether this would cover the entire battle field.

The weaponry used by the villagers were things such as hunting bows, carpenter hatchets and lumberjack axes as they were not expecting a real battle at all. And while those weapons certainly were powerful in the hands of young men, none of them had received any combat training, making them complete amateurs at mortal battle.

All in all their entire combat force consisted of 12 amateurs and Shion's group. This small group of able combatants also had to protect the 40 elders, women and children.

By now there was no point in discussing how to use their combat force in battle but rather how to escape the assault without incurring significant damage. However there was no safe refuge available even if one considered escaping.

It is in the nature of a pioneer's village to be constructed in a remote region in the first place. Usually soldiers were hired as guards, but since this was a newly built village there was no chance for soldiers to arrive yet, even if they were dispatched already.

This was yet another drip of misfortune in the already full casket.

The distance to the nearest town was two days by carriage. Considering the women and children who were unable to fight, this was no distance one could easily traverse. For example, even if some villagers would be able to somehow escape by sheer luck, the majority of the villagers would end up as prey for the pursuing goblins.

“Uwaah ... I feel like running away.” (Renya)

Holding the loaned longsword in the right hand and gripping an axe he picked up somewhere in the left hand while swinging it around lightly, Renya watched the approaching horde of goblins emerging from the forest.

In contrast to the grumbled words which emitted his feeling of how bothersome this whole ordeal was to him, his mouth formed a smile that gave off a strong aura of certain victory. Whereas the expressions of Shion and the young men were pale and terrified at the approaching menace, his face showed no distress or worry at all exuding a relaxed composure.

“Renya, you seem to be used to such situations?” (Shion)

Shion inquired in a strained weak voice. While the voice of the responding Renya on the contrary could only be described as flabby.

“Nnn ... I wonder~ ... The memory of it seems to have been erased, I guess? But, oh well ... some way or the other we will manage to do something about this mess, don’t you think?” (Renya)

“Re-Renya ... somehow you are quite composed desu~” (Rona)

Even though Rona stated this, Renya denied it flatly.

“No such thing. However, it can’t get any worse than me dying.” (Renya)

Because I already died once after all, he could have said. But he swallowed those words.

Those two wouldn’t understand it even if he told them. There was neither meaning nor significance in mentioning it either.

“Rather than that, won’t we enter the range of bows soon?” (Renya)

“Muuu~ ... Archers fire away!” (Shion)

Though some of the villagers began to shoot their arrows towards the advancing goblins by Shion’s command, the amount of archers being four was low and thus the amount of arrows sent flying was low as well. Having the strength of hunters, some of the arrows pierced the goblins at the front of the approaching pack. But the resulting effect didn’t amount to any more than a mere droplet of water in a desert.

“Well then ... see you later in case we survive this. I am going to attack them. Keep the arrows coming.” (Renya)

“Ehhh !?” (Rona & Shion)

Renya glanced at Shion and Rona who both raised their voices in shock. Then he started suddenly to run while holding the sword and axe loosely in his hands.

Some of the villagers raised their voices exclaiming his charge to be too reckless, but Renya continued to run without minding them at all.

In the first place, the difference in numbers was too far from expected. No matter where, there was no escape to begin with no matter how reckless he was. Thus he decided to jump in by himself to fight as efficiently as possible utilizing his full strength. But even then he was aware that confronting this many goblins alone could be called suicidal.

The weapons of the goblins were crude spears made out of tree branches and crumbling edged tools. The vanguards of the goblins hurried to set up their spears aiming for the approaching Renya. Renya waited for the moment they thrust their spears at him. Keeping his body low and sliding along the ground, he evaded the incoming spears.

Passing below the outstretched spears, Renya kicked one goblin down and stood up while slicing with both weapons, sword and axe, the legs off the goblins on the right and left side.

Dealing with a large crowd of spear holders the most problematic issue is getting past the line of the attacking of spears. Once you enter close combat the spear becomes unsuitable and very difficult to use.

Furthermore, brandishing the spear within a large crowd is impossible. Thus the spears have to be abandoned in favour of swords and axes.

The goblins whose legs were cut off were thrashing around on the ground trying to recover from their sorry state. Meanwhile the other goblins threw their spears down to prepare other weapons.

Using this opening in defence to hack away at both parties, Renya dispatched several of the goblins quickly. In response to the slaughtering ensuing, dark red liquid splattered all around.

While basking in the crowd that tried scattering away from him as they were mowed down, Renya confirmed one fact.

“I do love fighting.” (Renya)

He couldn't stop to laugh. Turning his eyes looking for the next target to attack, he didn't even bother looking at the result of his previous one.

A ball of gleaming white light ascended into the sky. Renya realised, that Rona had used her Illumination magic which could only mean that the villagers had started their battle now too.

By its nature, it was not possible to stop such a large crowd with the charge of just one person. The amount of victims was limited to a few, but that was to be expected. Thus Renya continued killing. Every passing second there were even more of them.

Repelling a small rust-covered sword with his long sword, he stroke his axe into the upper body of a goblin. The blade of the axe bit deep into the flesh. Since it was too difficult to pull out the axe, he simply tossed the dying body at another goblin. Pressing on, he mercilessly crushed the goblins who tried to escape from him as they stumbled about.

Whether it was a head, a belly or an arm, he relentlessly crushed them. Driving the axe into a screaming mouth while chopping off the hand trying to help with the long sword.

He didn't care about weak counter-attacks to the degree of only grazing him either. Choosing to repel only those attacks that were dangerous, he returned the favour by swinging his axe at the attackers.

Midway the longsword simply snapped. Renya adjusted the way he was holding it from an ordinary hold to a backhanded grip¹, using the the hilt with its remaining part of blade to exchange a few strikes.

However as the blade failed soon afterwards, he tossed the hilt into the [Inventory]. Leaving him with only the axe, thus he grasped it with both hands.

No matter how sturdy and thick the blade of a axe might be, if it is used against countless demons at full power repetitively, it will certainly slowly chip and be destroyed in the process.

The axe's handle was designed to endure chopping at hard wood and thus it wouldn't break quickly, which served Renya's purpose well enough. In the first place, he didn't plan on cutting with the axe's blade anyway.

All he required was a solid part to strike with, thus there was no impediment accomplishing his goal without the axe's blade part.

Wooden bucklers, leather armour and arms brandishing weapons in defence, were utterly useless in front of Renya. Without a care using all his strength, he continued to strike in a mood as if he was working on a lump of iron. Whether breaking or being broken lost all of its relevance. After all it were only bodies made of flesh and bones he was facing.

After a short while his own leather armour was torn at several places as scratches had accumulated all over.

As it was only an hindrance at this point, he tore it off and tossed it carelessly away.

In a corner of his mind, he registered that it was a gift from Kami-sama originally. But that was only a passing thought as he focussed his concentration on the battle in front of him.

With his body screaming in pain from the accumulated cut and stab wounds all over due to becoming defenceless, his mind started to loose its rational bounds and shifted towards the edge of insanity.

It was an intoxicating pleasure.

Loosing himself more and more in the rising madness.



Enjoying the feeling of crushed flesh which was transmitted to him through the axe's handle.

Revelling in the sweet melody of bones being crushed.

Desiring to bath his body in the lukewarm blood of his enemies, he was looking for the next victim.

Watching the ugly face of a demon distorted in agonizing terror, he was truly happy. The face which was crying and pleading for help was an interesting sight to him.

Judging escape to be impossible, the frantic expression as the deadly strike descended upon it, appeared to him as adorable.

The throbbing wound of the light cut by a blade felt comfortable to him.

The striking impact to the numb body about to puff the candle of life was irresistible.

What kind of feeling will he experience with the next one?

What kind of show will he watch with the next one?

What kind of taste will he savour with the next one?

As one would expect, the strain on the axe's handle took its toll in the end. As he crushed another demon who didn't understand what was happening in front of its eyes, the handle broke. He stabbed the remaining sharp splinter into the face of a nearby goblin and thus parted with his last weapon.

At last Renya was empty-handed causing the goblins to grab this chance to rush upon him. But there was no sign of panic on Renya countenance to be seen. Grabbing a wrist holding onto a weapon in order to steal it from its owner, he rammed his elbow into the face of the goblin snatching its weapon away, just to use it to crush another goblin's head.

The weapon was of low quality and not maintained at all, thus it broke after just one swing. But Renya didn't care at all and simply stole another weapon from a different goblin.

"This is not satisfying enough at all, you lot!" (Renya)

Stepping on a goblin that fell to the ground and crushing it, Renya spread his arms widely and declared thus threateningly.

“How weak! The enemy who kills your comrades stands here! The enemy you should kill is right before you! What’s wrong? Come and get me!” (Renya)

Renya shouted in front of their eyes.

A remarkably huge goblin appeared in front of him. Renya’s figure couldn’t even begin to compare to its tremendous size.

Gripping a longsword in its hand and donning a chain mail, one could tell at a glance, that this goblin was a different kind of breed in comparison to the goblins standing behind him.

In a corner of his mind left untouched by his madness he realised that this was the goblin commander Shion mentioned before the battle started.

“That’s the goblin leader! You have no chance without weapons. Run away!” (-)

A voice exclaimed from a very far and remote place. Although unlikely Renya considered it to be Shion’s voice but disregarded such thinking right away. Whether the enemy had a weapon or was bare-handed didn’t matter to Renya. This was a battlefield after all. And he wouldn’t escape from it either way.

Though his entire body was riddled with bruises from the fighting, Renya’s speed didn’t drop at all.

However the speed of the goblin leader brandishing his longsword couldn’t be compared to the other goblins he fought before at all.

How slow, is what Renya thought nevertheless. Stepping in quickly Renya delivered a front kick with his left foot. As was expected of the goblin leader’s physique, the kick was limited to only stopping it for a moment instead of sending it flying.

Switching the foot stance from a kick to a step, Renya closed in on the goblin leader, using a palm strike with his right hand to pommel the wrist holding the brandished longsword. This attack caused the goblin leader to let go of the longsword.

Continuing on, he rammed his right shoulder with deadly force into it. Even though

their physique couldn't have been any more different, the goblin leader was knocked down on the ground.

As it tried to stand up again, Renya quickly wrapped both arms around its neck. However he didn't intend to use such a half-hearted method as suffocating it. To avoid the other goblins attacking him in the back, he used the huge body as a shield. Channelling tremendous force into his arms, he pressed his back against the ground breaking the neck of the goblin leader.

With the dull sound of the bone breaking, he used his palms to push off the limp body of the goblin leader.

Without confirming its death, he leaped towards the longsword that was laying on the ground picking it up and grasping it tightly.

The feeling it emitted was slightly heavy as it had a rather thick blade. Though he didn't understand where it procured such weapon, he doubted the goblin leader was able to use any sword skills (Kenjutsu).

However it was a sturdy longsword and most likely wouldn't break even if he was to use his full strength, thought Renya.

"Well, I guess I was able to resupply myself with a weapon again, huh?" (Renya)

Turning around to the surrounding goblins, Renya smiled radiantly.

The faces of the goblins who saw this became frozen stiff.

"Shall we continue then?" (Renya)

It was not possible to suppress him even if they assaulted him in numbers and their leader had been slain as well. There was no way left for the goblins to defend against Renya's attacks. While the goblins were screaming in terror, he waded through them leisurely as if he was taking a walk.

The place called battlefield immediately changed into a slaughterhouse.

Something like this happening daily ... he was imagining.

He was looking forward to it.

CHAPTER 8

IT SEEMS TO BE THE CLEANUP AFTER BATTLE

This chapter is entirely written from the point of view of Shion.

The italic text parts are her talking in her own mind.

The sun rose slowly. Step by step the darkness of the night retreated steadily narrowing down its area of influence.

Gazing at the sky which started to be tinted in a red color, Shion had a feeling she saw something she didn't actually want to see.

It was almost morning, a refreshing one.

If that only was the case it would be nice, Shion thought.

If she tried to accurately describe her mixed up feelings this morning, she wouldn't be able to do it satisfactorily.

Her whole body felt heavy. She was sore from running around all night. Until now she couldn't count the times she had to wield her weapon.

Additionally half of that weariness was due to her listless nature.

Here and there she was injured. Because of the bleeding her stamina was depleted which additionally caused an intense exhaustion.

Although she didn't receive a fatal wound, the deep cuts at who-knows-how-many places took their toll in their own way.

Putting her own affairs aside, the question why they were still alive simply didn't vanish.

Originally she should rest on a bed or the ground. Her body was entirely wrapped up in bandages. Her wounds had been sewn shut making her appear like an old rag. Had

it not been for Rona's healing magic, she would have used up all her strength midway assuming she was lucky enough to not be killed in battle before that.

Although the medical treatment of her wounds had already finished, replenishing the blood she lost with Healing magic was not an option as curing the wounds of an patient caused twice the exhaustion on the practitioner.

Her feelings were heavy, too

When she closed her eyes, she was vividly reminded of the scene of the approaching horde of goblins emerging from within the darkness which was burned into her sight.

She couldn't recall just how many of that crowd she had slaughtered. At the beginning she intended to keep count of it, but before long she stopped it as she didn't comprehend the reason to do it any more.

Brandishing her weapon attempting to strike at the opponent similar to a free-for-all fight, there was no margin left to think about other matters.

The damage sustained by the villagers was severe, too.

After all it was only ten-odd defenders intercepting the charge. It was impossible to restrain the pack of goblins and thus they were allowed to invade the village center.

Villagers who couldn't fight, locked their houses and secluded themselves in the basement where the crop was stored. The majority escaped the danger. Unfortunately it was discovered that 10 people had become desperate and tried to leave resulting in their death.

As for the villagers who helped as defenders, most of them had died. There were merely two survivors. Those two each lost an arm and had their eyes injured. Returning back to the old life with such injuries wouldn't be possible any more.

Most likely it has been decided to close down this village temporarily, Shion judged with a gloomy mood.

The workers were almost completely annihilated. Thus it would be unreasonable for the remaining villagers to continue staying here.

Going by the nature of the guild, it was almost certain that the accepted request will

be judged as failure as well.

Surviving in perfectly good health was absolutely necessary and only that would be deemed acceptable.

Thinking about the cleanup of the incident, Shion was plunged into a whirl of dark emotions not knowing how deep she would fall.

In the end, the horde of goblins gushing out of the forest approximately exceeded an amount in the three digits by several counts in total.¹

Moving one's sight from the village towards the forest, the ground up to the forest was turned into an area that was completely covered with innumerable corpses of goblins scattered about.

A figure of a person could be seen weaving through the gaps and slowly walking.

It was Renya.

He walked holding a knife drenched in reddish brown liquid in his left hand and dragging along the corpse of a goblin in his right hand.

If one wondered what he was doing: He was in the process of collecting the magic cores from the defeated goblin's bodies and gathering the unnecessary corpses in one place.

The magic core was an unusual crystal placed within the body of every monster. Generally it could be found either above the heart or inside the head. The strength of a monster changed depending on the size of the core.

As for goblins, the magic core could be found above their heart, however its size wasn't very big.

Within that core mana² was stored. It is used for magic crafting and as a power source to use various devices in cities and the like.

Furthermore the different magic cores themselves can be examined to determine from which monster it originated. Thus it also served as proof for subjugation requests of the guild.

Summarized, bringing them back turned them into money.

When Renya was taught this by Shion, he borrowed a knife from her after the battle and began to silently dismantle the corpses that were littering the field.

The corpse which was in the right hand of Renya was thrown away.

The corpses of goblins who had already been dismantled had grown into a hill. But there were still many more untouched corpses. Thus Renya immediately walked towards the next corpse.

Good grief, what kind of stamina does that man have, Shion sighed.

The appearance of the returning Renya shortly before dawn after the battle had ended had been quite terrible.

Most of the leather armor he wore had been destroyed and his upper body was completely naked. The trousers were worn-out and cut in several places.

He had been injured with a countless number of cuts and bruises all over and was also bleeding severely. Furthermore, on top of his body he was covered in the spurts of goblin gore. Basked in blood the rest couldn't be described as a solid body any more but rather as a lump of blood and flesh taking the shape of an essence resembling a human.

Moreover, because he was basked in the blood and flesh of goblins, he emitted a staggering stench. Shion resigned herself quickly to the task of wiping off the gore with a cloth. Then she dragged him by his hand walking towards the well of the village in order to dump masses of water on him to somehow get rid of the remaining filth.

When the dirt finally came off, Rona ended up screaming at first as she saw his whole body riddled with countless injuries. As soon as she had decided, Rona glossed over the persistently clinging stench with her own personal perfume, while frantically applying healing on his battered body.

The person himself had from the beginning until the end worn an annoyed, not complying expression.

At any rate, how absurd, Shion thought.

Yet, though his charge was extremely reckless and shocked her into astonishment, he not only returned alive but also produced the majority of corpses of the subjugated goblins lying on the battlefield by himself.

Moreover, after receiving treatment he immediately went on to move the corpses of the deceased villagers. And then he started on his operation to collect the magic cores from the dead goblins and to dispose of the dismantled corpses.

If you left the corpse of a monster as is, it would turn into something that is called undead which harms humans.

It was a troublesome being as the evil dwelling within continued to exist resenting humans for its death. But that was inevitable as monsters were such kind of creatures.

Therefore it was a rule that the corpses of subjugated monsters had to properly be disposed of then and there. The predominating method of disposal was to burn the corpses to cinder.

As the amount this time was quite numerous, the chance of a corpse turning undead while the magic cores were collected existed. The unusual and inefficient action of crushing the head, which Renya performed after collecting the magic core and carrying it to the mountain of discarded bodies, was owed to this.

Due to this bloody work, his body became dirty again.

Nevertheless, Shion had a problem with him doing his work in a half-naked state and thus requested a villager to prepare men's clothing for him to wear.

Renya refused telling her that it would just get dirty again anyway. Thus now he was working being naked above the waist only wearing his torn trousers, which made one shiver considering the coldness of such appearance.

That being said, his judgment was correct though.

Shion firmly made up her mind to make him wear the requested clothes this time after washing off the dirt with water and perfume once his work was finished.

Renya pulled up the corpse of a goblin, gouged out the magic core from its chest and crushed the head with the handle of the knife.

What a tough person, thought Shion.

On top of going through such a long battle, he continued afterwards to do this seemingly endless work. There was no adventurer of his kind to be found in the guild. At least Shion herself had no motivation to stand up and move even one step from the place she was resting at.

Although he said he was a Lost³, it was the first time for Shion to see one herself.

They were ignorant to the common sense of the world, yet they possessed strange knowledge. Furthermore in general they were capable swordsmen, magicians and manufacturers. That was the extent of Shion's knowledge of the Lost.

Generally they were good people as almost none of them were cruel criminals.

The degree of frequency of their appearance widely varied. Especially if the world was heading towards a crisis, occasionally they would appear in a dashing heroic manner and among them a reasonable number carved their names and deeds into history. It is passed on that those figures were the existences known as the Lost.

In other words, you could say they were an extremely ambiguous existence that couldn't be called neither a good nor a bad omen.

Even so, Shion had a hunch that Renya was a Lost who in some way differed from the Lost as she had heard in rumors.

The hearsay on the Lost was limited to the knowledge that their common point was them coming from somewhere beyond this world. This pattern was something they left behind as confirmed story after inquiring on it.

However the case of a Lost introducing himself as such was as far as Shion knew something that hadn't happened in the past.

To begin with, the meaning of the word "Lost" itself wasn't something a person afflicted by this state should simply know about. Thus calling yourself like this was not possible.

If that's the case, the only reason Renya knows about the meaning of the word "Lost" was because someone else had taught it to him. However, Renya emerged from that forest. Very likely that was not a lie, Shion asserted.

Although they were associated with each other for only a little while now, Renya didn't appear to be a person who was good at lying. Incidentally he showed no hesitation when he declared his name either.

Within the forest there is no one who could have taught Renya the word, Shion believed without a doubt.

Then, who the heck taught Renya that word?

"Thinking about it is pointless ..." (Shion)

Shion judged that she wouldn't get an answer to that question.

Renya himself might tell her if she inquired him about it, but Shion hesitated whether it was a good idea to step into the core of the matter to such an extent.

Therefore I will put aside the question concerning such matters for now, thought Shion as she watched Renya continuing his work.

Gradually the corpses which still had to be dealt with started to change into things that were going to become an undead. However, Renya casually crushed them underfoot with hard kicks wearing an annoyed expression while continuing the processing of the corpses.

Putting the various issues that can't be comprehended aside, that tough and sharp fighting technique is simply amazing. Furthermore not judging Rona as detestable is another big point.

While he was ignorant of this world's situation, it could be said he was able to accept various instructions and escaped the battle without harm.

After going through the trouble with the soldiers from the mercenary kingdom, Shion now had too many hard feelings towards the various problems that could occur to a party of just two women.

She had decided to choose an additional party member once they returned to town, but one couldn't make a mistake with such an excellent article before their eyes and thus she wouldn't let him get away.

Shion was convinced that the degree of persuasion needed wouldn't be such a

troublesome matter either.

However, Renya still held onto that bamboo weapon which the soldiers of the mercenary kingdom mockingly called a stick. As a matter of fact he can be considered stubborn or rather be unyielding at times or more precisely he possessed typically difficult personality traits, she guessed.

So in the situation of only inviting him it was still possible that he would get angry and abandon them by cutting their ties, too.

I'm not a very sociable person, Shion sighed while scratching her head.

It's alright. I have a feeling that Rona will be able to flawlessly follow-up on me, she decided optimistically.

That Rona was in the midst of her work of throwing firewood and oil one after another on the mountain of goblin corpses that Renya had amassed.

I should help out over there too, Shion sighed while heading over.

"The stench is terrible. You should light the fire already, shouldn't you?" (Rona)

Rona said when she realized that Shion had come over.

The smell the pile of corpses emitted was certainly unbearable, Shion nodded as she approached.

"To keep the burning fire alive this strange fuel was provided as an addition. We should start the fire, I think." (Shion)

"Can I ask you to do it?" (Rona)

She pleaded and Shion again nodded her approval.

Although Rona was an apprentice, she was still fairly skilled at using the magic of a priest. However for that reason skills related to different kinds of magic were almost entirely no good to the degree that you could say she was incompetent at it.

Being able to easily use magic of the water system meant that your affinity with magic of the fire system would be a hopelessly bad match. Even simple magic like <Ignition>

was impossible to be cast.

Shion herself was no magician and thus she wasn't able to use magic of a certain degree. However in consideration of the common daily life she had studied elementary magic. Thus it was usually her role to ignite a fire to boil water when they occasionally camped outside.

"In accordance to my authority: Dance, red dwarf!" ⁴ (Shion)

Putting power into the words, a part of the piled mountain is ignited by fire.

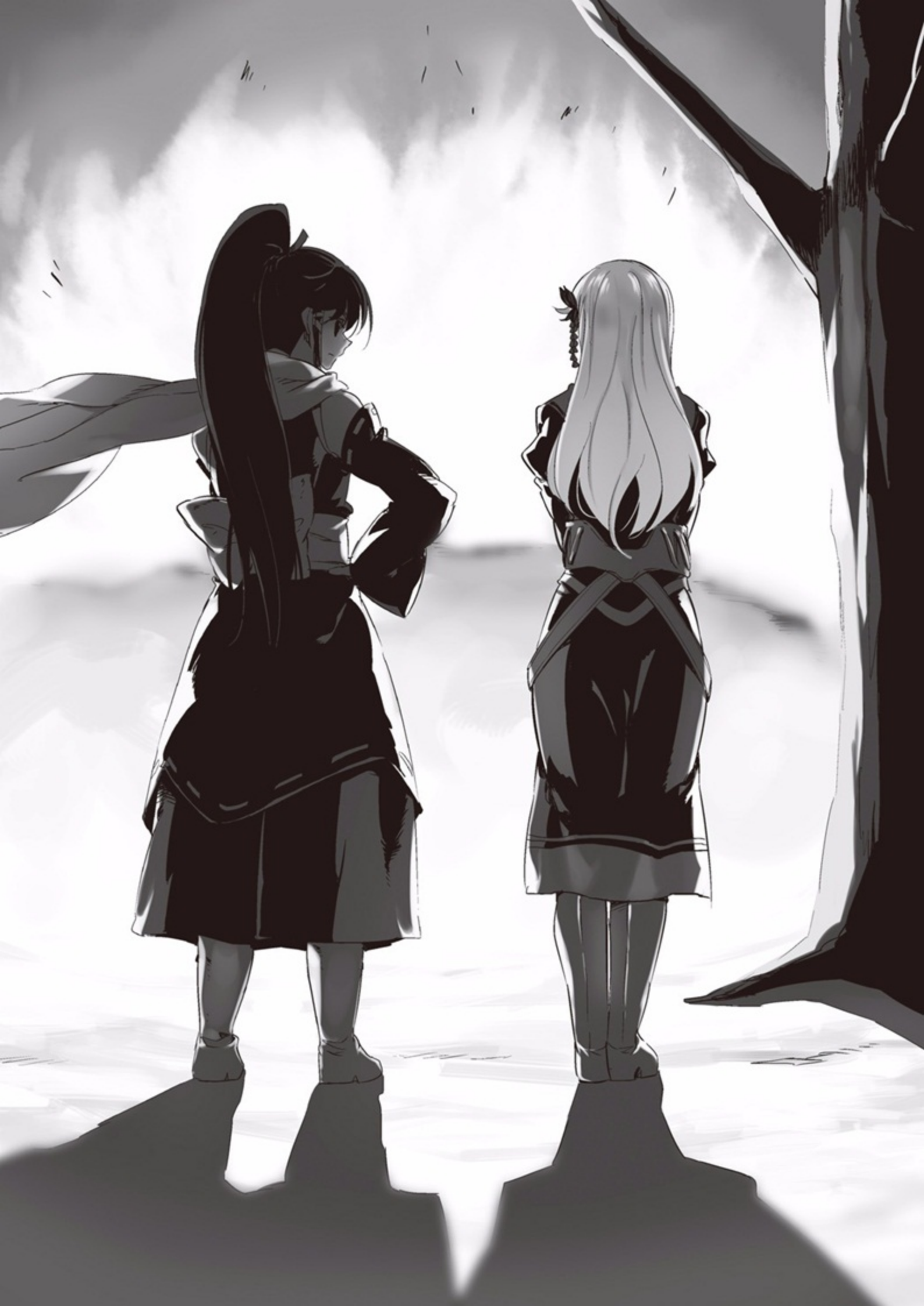
<Ignition> could be called the most basic magic spell of the elementary magic in the fire system. It created no more than a tiny spark of magic.

Because it was that convenient, not only adventurers but also common citizens usually utilized it.

As long as one cleared the condition of not having a bad affinity with the system, like Rona had, almost everyone could learn this magic. By just paying a few silver coins, you could learn it in any slightly bigger town.

Being widespread to this degree, one would expect the citizens to gather together and teach the skill to their fellow companions. Strangely though, unless you accepted the teaching by a magician you wouldn't be able to use it.

While gazing at the flame extending itself along the firewood and oil, Shion judged it absolutely necessary to introduce Renya to a magician once they returned to town.



CHAPTER 9

IT SEEMS TO BE IMPORTANT TO COMPROMISE

In the end 116 magic cores were collected. Most of them were as small as the fingernail of a pinky finger.

According to Shion their value supposedly was 3 silver coins per piece. After selling all of them, it would amount to 348 silver coins in total.

As Renya didn't know the currency used in this world, he asked Shion to show him some coins that were circulating as currency.

There was copper coin, big copper coin, silver coin, gold coin and platinum coin. Apparently the same currency was used on the entire continent.

The exchange rate was:

10 Copper coins -> 1 Big Copper coin

10 Big Copper coins -> 1 Silver coin

100 Silver coins -> 1 Gold coin

100 Gold coins -> 1 Platinum coin

After being troubled for a little while, Shion also explained their respective value. Generally one bread or one drink cost 10 copper coins.

Given that kind of explanation, Renya considered and conjectured from his own knowledge that 1 copper coin equaled approximately 10 Japanese yen in his original world.

In other words, one could think of it as follows:

a Big Copper coin is 100 Japanese yen,

a Silver coin is 1000 Japanese yen,

a Gold coin is 100'000 Japanese yen

and a Platinum coin is 10 million Japanese yen.

Based on this calculation Renya considered the value of money to be obviously very high.

Generally you wouldn't need to use more than silver coins to live an ordinary life. Gold and platinum coins were stored away and sometimes used by adventurers to buy expensive tools and equipment.

That was the approximate run-down Shion taught Renya.

Looking at the spoils from the recent battle, 3 gold coins and 48 silver coins had been procured. Defining it in the currency of his original world, it would be 348'000 Japanese yen.

As a result it couldn't be helped that Renya had a feeling of it being very little considering how close to death he had been in the battle.

Apart from this, the reward for the subjugation all together was 2 big copper coins for each goblin.

116 were defeated, thus it was 232 big copper coins or 23'200 Japanese yen.

Really not worth it, was Renya's thought.

Still, according to what Shion taught him, for eating a reasonable set of meal 5 big copper coins were required and for staying one day and night at a typical inn including 2 meals cost 3 silver coins.

As a matter of fact, Renya noticed that the spoils from the recent battle didn't cover any more than three months of living expenses. Thus he changed his way of thinking and simply recognized this to be the way it was.

For slaying 1 goblin, you got 2 big copper coins for the subjugation and 3 silver coins for the magic core.

Pondering about it, it wasn't even sufficient enough for one day of food and lodging expenses. You couldn't really call that appropriate.

In the first place, it is quite rare in itself to encounter a crowd reaching a count in the 3 digits. This time could be counted as rare case.

It can't be helped that it wasn't worth it, either, Renya agreed to himself.

Renya's wallet in his [Inventory] held 10 gold coins. Roughly calculated, this amount of money would cover 10 months of living expenses.

In this case it was a situation where he could surprisingly splurge.

Next time he met Kami-sama he would need to express his gratitude.

Or rather, I will be a bit more gentle while dealing with her, Renya decided.

From the goblin leader which Renya defeated the loot was slightly larger, a magic core with a size to the degree of a thumbnail.

The reward for the subjugation was 5 silver coins and it seemed that the magic core would bring him 10 silver coins.

Although he thought that it was rather abrupt for the reward to rise this sharply, Shion and Rona concluded that it was due to the considerable degree of danger in finishing the goblin leader off. There was no choice but to accept this exception.

Even if he was concerned about the reward, it was pointless worrying about it, as he couldn't hand it in, if he didn't venture to the closest town first. This was a problem, too.

Above all, even though the next regular carriage would certainly arrive, all of the villagers will be eager to board it. Naturally there was no way the capacity of the carriage would be sufficient.

After the villagers fought against the goblin raid, they pretty much lost everything. The current condition of the village was similar to a bare plot of land.

Abandoning this place by themselves to return to town was not feasible for Renya's group either.

For escorting the villagers back to town it was necessary to employ soldiers. It would be wise to send a letter along with the carriage to the guild, so they could put up a

request for this task.

Thinking about this, it would be another difficult voyage.

Ten days after sending the letter, about 10 soldiers along with 3 empty carts arrived at the village.

Renya couldn't comprehend at all what was going on with this situation.

Shion explained it to him like this: After the letter reached the guild, the guild contacted the town mayor about it. It was very likely that the town mayor wasn't able to dispatch a satisfactory number of soldiers with the authority he possessed. Thus the mayor now had to talk to the feudal lord governing the area about the situation. Then the feudal lord likely contacted the central government about it.

And then the central government refused the dispatch of soldiers.

This sounded like a quite cruel story, but for starters the central government might have seen this as trivial matter allowing them to not concern themselves with it. 『You caused the situation, so deal with it yourself』 seemed to be the extent of awareness towards the whole situation.

Accordingly the feudal lord and the town mayor reluctantly split the task of dispatching soldiers and carts.

Furthermore, heading towards the village could actually be called time consuming and hard labor, which was the reason why they arrived only now.

“Considering the reported damage, the amount of soldiers is insufficient. Although it was stated that this was the limit, this amount of carts is nowhere near enough either.”
(Shion)

Shion displeasedly stated.

Even if close to half the number of villagers went to town, there would still be 30 villagers left in the vicinity.

In order to transport all the luggage, three carts were totally insufficient.

It was decided that the luggage which didn't fit on the carts would be discarded unless

it could be carried in the hands. Therefore the villagers examined which luggage held too important property to be thrown away.

To be asked to go ahead and throw it away just like that, it was unthinkable that they would easily say 'Yes, right away.'

Naturally the villagers started to quarrel between themselves causing even the guards to be influenced by the disputes.

Unable to just watch, the soldiers coldly drove away the desperately petitioning villagers.

Shion consulted in Renya to offer a solution but he declined it.

Anticipating the current situation, Renya had already finished putting Shion's and Rona's luggage into the storage of his [Inventory]. More or less there was still some space left inside, but that could only be called little.

Granting the wish of the villagers was not possible no matter how you looked at it.

"In the end the amount of luggage will only increase. Then the villagers complaints will merely turn our way, don't you agree?" (Renya)

The storage of [Inventory] certainly was convenient. But because the other people didn't know the upper limit, by Renya's estimation the villagers very likely wouldn't be able to comprehend the situation as soon as the storage was full.

Such complaints as 'Come on, you can carry a lot more, can't you' would certainly be directed towards them and as soon as Renya would decline it, they would turn their dissatisfaction towards his two female companions.

Even if I say so myself, that's a little cold-hearted, isn't it, Renya thought to himself while still wearing a rejecting expression. And yet, Shion still persisted.

"Abandoning our luggage would be alright as well though." (Shion)

"That would only allow a little bit more to be added. It doesn't solve the fundamental problem at all. Besides I don't really know anyone properly, thus I want to prioritize Shion and Rona whom I am indebted to." (Renya)

“That is ... I am thankful, but ...” (Shion)

“Shion, please leave it at that.” (Rona)

Unexpectedly such follow-up was brought up by Rona.

Because of her appearance and her occupation, Renya had thought that she would definitely support Shion on this matter.

However with a calm countenance and gentle expression Rona called out to Shion and placed her hands on Shion’s shoulders. Furthermore clinging to Shion trying to hold her back.

“If circumstances would allow it, Renya would be sure to help with everyone’s luggage, too. But unfortunately that’s not possible. Since not all of it can be taken with us, there is no way to avoid choosing which will be. This choice will give birth to unfairness, which may potentially be dangerous to Renya-san and us, and become apprehensions towards Renya-san. Therefore the option of not telling them about the [Inventory] can be called the best choice.” (Rona)

“Are you okay with that, Rona?” (Shion)

Shion asked while understanding the reasoning but apparently not quite accepting it. Rona expressed a slightly awkward smiled.

“Even though things may appear to be this way, I am still a priestess. If it was possible, I would want to help them. However, in the current situation that would be called something unreasonable. Speaking of not wanting to help would be very unbecoming of a priestess.” (Rona)

“That is ... I hate it, but ...” (Shion)

Shion was unable to give up and withdraw.

Well, they definitely are good people, Renya admired although he couldn’t put it in better words. He noticed Rona looking at him as if she wanted to say something while he was ruminating.

Even though Rona could say the necessary words, she wanted him to do it by himself. It was such a feeling.

Although Renya wasn't able to remember his own past. One could probably tell from his facial expression, that his ability to understand the emotions of others in relation to his perception could be called rather low.

This is completely different from the ability to predict an opponent's next move from their behavior and look in combat, it is a profoundly more complex ability, thought Renya.

For this reason, while he was able to keep showing a delighted smile in combat, he had no ability to read the mood or in other words he was ordinarily disconnected without questioning or thinking in depth.

His 94 years of experience didn't help him in any way in grasping the heart of others. Thus he was frantically trying to read Rona's expression and at last he succeeded in doing so.

Then, what in the world do you want me to say here? It surely isn't even more severe words of refusal, Renya thought.

Speaking of proper words for the sake of settling this situation somehow to make Shion, who doesn't want to give up, accept following ...'

"If the usage of the void storage were to be seen, we would be liable to unjust suspicion for being able to carry even more." (Renya)

While slowly building up his words, Renya was pondering whether he somehow got the wrong idea. For a fraction of time he threw an inquiring glance at Rona seeking direction as he continued to talk.

"However, as for helping to carry the luggage, as anyone can see it is easy to understand that there is a limit to carrying luggage." (Renya)

"Un ... ?" (Shion)

Shion was puzzled about what Renya wanted to say.

As for Rona, her smiling expression didn't crumble for an instant at all.

Since it didn't seem like he made a mistake with the direction his talk was headed, Renya continued.

“Fortunately our luggage has already been stored away in the void storage causing us to be lightly equipped. Also, the villagers are not aware of the fact that I am a possessor of the ability called void storage.” (Renya)

“Un” (Shion)

“To enable the carriage to deliver the letter faster, filling it up with luggage had been postponed, only the important luggage had been loaded. I am certain that all villagers will be able to cooperate this way.” (Renya)

“That is ...” (Shion)

Before Shion could say something, Rona clapped a hand on her chest. *pan*

“I see, if that’s the case this unreasonable situation will calm down and disappear, too. All the villagers will be eager to cooperate with us since the method is easy to understand.” (Rona)

“Although it might be cunning, I still suggest this as a compromise. What do you think?” (Renya)

Even though the words were directed at Shion, they were directed at Rona simultaneously as well.

Rona didn’t lose her smiling expression, whereas Shion suddenly brightened up.

“I-Is that so? Certainly, if that’s the case, the villagers will be able to accept that this unreasonable situation is unjustified. And although it’s just a little, the villagers won’t get accustomed to always getting help. I will go discuss this with the village chief for a little while.” (Shion)

Finally showing a smile on her face, Shion jogged away heading towards her destination. *pata pata*

While seeing her back off, Renya muttered without changing his line of sight,

“May I consider this way of removing her hard feelings to be to your satisfaction?” (Renya)

“Yes, I shall offer you a perfect passing grade.” (Rona)

Hearing the sound of applause, Renya shifted his view towards Rona.

Rona was clapping her hands in front of her chest *pachi pachi* while she was smiling.
niko niko

Because he couldn't judge the situation in any way, Renya cocked his head in puzzlement while pondering the matter in his mind thinking about the words that were spoken.

"You don't really think that I followed-up properly, do you?" (Renya)

"Going by the appearance and conclusion, it was in tune with Shion's opinion, no?" (Rona)

With no feeling of tension, Rona answered without changing her tone being somehow carefree. And yet, even if it was just a little, Renya felt that the mood she emitted had obviously changed.

"Because I am a priestess, I'm not a reasonable realist and unfit to be one in this situation, too." (Rona)

"I thought that priests always rely on the name of god in situations where it is convenient." (Renya)

"Ah haha ... It seems to be necessary to have a proper discussion soon, isn't that so, Renya-san?" (Rona)

Feeling the slight provocation, Renya picked up on the little amount of anger mixed in Rona's words. However she immediately returned to her normal calm voice.

"There is a god. The works of god are entirely real, too. However, after all, people themselves are not really ready for the words of God. While it may be true that I am studying Healing magic, there still is an innumerable amount of people I can't save." (Rona)

A shadow darkens Rona's expression.

Most likely she had experienced something in the past which caused her current expression. Renya waited for her to continue.

“The number of people who can be saved is limited. Priests are pious, sacrificing themselves for their doctrine. Thus they can’t devote themselves to just one thing. It is absolutely necessary to be able to conduct oneself to demarcation.” (Rona)

“I have a feeling that’s not all there is to it.” (Renya)

Renya said while scratching his cheek with the index finger. Rona stared at Renya with a slightly astonished expression.

That facial expression was immediately remade into the usual calm expression from before. Even so, Renya had plenty of time to notice the change in her expression.

“And, what do you mean by that?” (Rona)

“No, nothing, since my intuition won’t work any further than that. Without a foundation, saying anything else feels like stepping in too deep. Or would you tell me, if my conjecture was right or wrong?” (Renya)

“Hmm, what should I do?” (Rona)

“In addition, that is.” (Renya)

Renya inserted jokingly into her words while considering how to continue.

“Although I don’t know who said it, but I heard that a woman having a few secrets makes her more beautiful.” (Renya)

Being attacked in an unguarded moment, her expression visibly went blank. And then instantly her whole face floated a smile towards Renya and she retorted.

“Mind your own business. Even without secrets, Shion and I are beautiful women.” (Rona)

“Indeed, I was in the wrong.” (Renya)

Renya said while blushing as he had slipped with his words. Without losing her smiling face, Rona nodded. *kokukoku*

CHAPTER 10

IT SEEMS WE HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED AT A HUMAN HABITAT

The commercial city Kukrika belonging to the principality of Triden was a mid-sized city boasting a population of 10'000.

There was no special local product which particularly stood out in trading.

However, as if in order to not put the name of a commercial city to shame, the trade being done at this place was prosperously flourishing.

The human and demon territories were separated by an enormous forest and since it was the town closest to that miasma-filled forest, there was a busy coming and going of goods and personnel.

In proximity of the city there was a steep rocky mountain with a grim scale, which was likewise surrounded by a forest of reasonable size.

According to one legend, the rocky mountain was formed using one huge chunk, it was called 「Tomb of the Recluse」 .

Although separated by a far distance from the miasma-filled forest, they seemed to be connected in some way.

That very forest was called 「Labyrinth Forest」 and it housed two dungeons.

From the rocky mountain a river gushed forth in one long straight line continuing seemingly endlessly across the human dominated continent until it at last flowed into the ocean. Because of the width and depth of the river, medium-sized cargo-ships were able to use it as traffic lane.

Hence, it was extensively utilized as cornerstone in the circulation of money and goods.

The water of the river was rerouted into the city dividing its roughly round shape by

waterways into four parts and filling up the moat surrounding the city.

The four divided areas each held an own business district, a high-class residential area, a common residential area and a separated military ward. Those four districts completely adjoined at the city center where the feudal lord and the city mayor were residing in their mansions.

Furthermore there was a garrison ward ruled by the army.

The armed forces stationed there mounted up to 2000 soldiers who were under the direct order of the archduke of the principality of Triden.

They were highly skilled and possessed first-class equipment.

With the city hidden behind the moat, which was dug out to be considerably deep, coupled with a fortress wall, the defensive strength of the city was extremely high.

In case of something strange emerging from the miasma-filled forest or in case of the demons waging war, this city's purpose was to act as a frontier base.

Similar to a stronghold, the city was encircled by a wall with no end.

From the standpoint of a commercial city this exceedingly insular disposition was a problem though.

In the past this city was dragged several times into war, yet it was never especially devastatingly damaged.

Apart from the troops at the garrison, the feudal lord governing the area possessed 100 soldiers himself and the city mayor held onto a private army of 50 soldiers.

Comparing their equipment and degree of training to the forces under the direct control of the archduke, they were several grades below.

The soldiers dispatched to the pioneer village were chosen from those 150 combined forces. That means, that from those soldiers, who usually were in charge of public order, 10%¹ were sent into the vicinity. Even though they were few, it was the most that could be spared.

That was the end of the explanation Shion gave Renya while they were along the way

traveling to their destination.

That city is quite carefree, was Renya's impression.

Describing this places in words such as frontier base, there is no point in doing so for an open commercial city lacking any kind of tension.

In the normal case, an encircling wall naturally turns a city into a fortress, isn't that so?

"Well, it might not be reliable, but the city has also been continuing in trade business for a long time. Furthermore, suiting the feelings of the citizens ..."

All the same, the city is quite carefree, Renya concluded.

But even that carefree city had accurate inspections at the the two gates, east and west, being performed.

The people trying to enter the inner part of the walls had their identification and luggage checked in order of their social status serving the purpose to confirm whether there were any problems or not.

Next to the refugees from the pioneer village the guards accompanying them had the necessary identification papers with them and thus entering the city was quite simple.

The problem was Renya though.

"Please show me your identification papers." (Guard)

A guard, wearing a plain leather armor and holding a spear, waved at Renya to hand over the papers while asking him.

Renya not knowing what to say hesitated.

Naturally, him possessing identification papers for this world was unthinkable.

Yet, even if he answered that he was a Lost, he was troubled whether the other party would comprehend the circumstances or not.

In the worst case, he feared he might be recognized as foreign invader and be taken away somewhere.

Before arriving at the city, he should have confirmed the trouble with this kind of situation with Shion's group. Now you could only call it too late.

Renya's state of silence caused by his confusion about what to do, caused the guard to look at him suspiciously with a discerning eye.

Seeing that something was amiss, the other guards had gathered as well.

"Oi, what's wrong? Don't you have any identification papers?" (Guard)

"Umm well, to tell you the truth ..." (Renya)

Wondering whether he had no other choice, Renya began to open his mouth to meekly tell them that he hadn't any.

It was then, that Shion's group, who had separated from Renya to return the luggages to the villagers, came rushing over.

"Sorry, I had totally forgotten about your circumstances. This person isn't anyone suspicious." (Shion)

"He is a bit unfamiliar with the state of affairs. I am terribly sorry to causing you trouble in any way." (Rona)

The spectacle of two beautiful maidens bowing their heads in apology caused the guards tension to fade.

Additionally it caught Renya's attention that the guards, after looking at Shion's appearance, showed a momentarily expression of surprise.

"We are adventurers belonging to the Adventurer's guild who were sent to investigate the miasma gathering in the forest. He is a Lost we stumbled across there." (Shion)

While saying this, Shion casually shifted her armor slightly and shoved her hand between her breasts taking out a card from there.

Likewise Rona tried to also take out a matching card from her chest area. In her case though, was it a difference of volume or rather a difference of the depth of her cleavage? Somehow the card didn't want to come out.

Twisting 'round in order to extract the card, her two hills shook up and down due to the vibration exposing a staggering sight. Stretching her clothes at the collar to somehow take out the card, the exposure of the flesh-colored surface was vast in comparison to Shion.

For a small amount of time Shion's fully exposed breasts and Rona's breasts shaking with a *burun burun* awoke the sad nature of the males.

Renya made sure to catch how the guards' concentrated stares were glued to Shion's breasts while pretending to gaze at the card's surface she had taken out.

A string was attached to said card allowing it to hang from the neck. Comparing it to his original world, it had the size of a business card. Giving off the glittering of a bronze or copper metal quality, several characters were written on the surface of the card.

Confirming it to be words at first, the characters used to write those words were unknown to him and yet he was still able to properly read the words.

Because it was handed over to guards almost right away, he wasn't able to read overly much.

What he managed to catch was, that the card was issued as identification by the adventurer's guild to verify the owner's affiliation, the owner belonged to the principality of Triden and finally that the name of the owner, Shion, was recorded on the card.

Only 「Shion」 was recorded in the name field.

There was nothing concerning the family name recorded on the card. Renya firmly engraved this within his memories.

At that moment, Rona finally extracted the card from deep within her cleavage. While floating an apologetic smile, she handed the card over to the guards.

Somehow an air of relief swept across the surroundings.

Renya secretly averted his eyes. For some reason Renya had a feeling that Rona had turned towards him and thrown him a fleeting glance.

“Confirmed. You certainly seem to be from the adventurer's guild.” (Guard)

The guard verified both cards he had received earlier. After a slight hesitation he returned them.

Half of his feelings could be considered due to regrettable act of returning the two cards which were warm from being placed within the cleavages of the two beauties.

Of course that was a joke that couldn't be mentioned to others.

Yet again the other half was the doubt that there was a reason why he hesitated in returning the cards.

"He is called Renya. We will guarantee this person's identity. We intended to go to the adventurer's guild now to have him register so he gets a card as well." (Shion)

"Is that so? Then you better hurry up. Let me confirm the card once it has been made. Given that it is the rule, someone entering without identification papers has to pay one silver coin as fee." (Guard)

"Ah, thank you for your hard work." (Shion)

The returned card was stuffed in between the breasts again. Shion handed 1 silver coin to the guard.

"You may go." (Guard)

After confirming the guards authorization, Renya was led away by the two and together they set foot into the commercial city Kukrika.

"To begin with, Lost always cause similar trouble when trying to enter the city through the gate for the first time." (Shion)

Shion, who was leading the way, explained to Renya.

"You are a Lost. And not identifying yourself as one is a serious matter. How should I put it ... Listen, if you don't understand, just be silent. Usually suspicious people will be restrained. Because the circumstances of Lost are known, it usually is possible to place the entrance fee as deferred payment. However, since the Lost don't know of such possibility, it is unreasonable to expect it to be completed smoothly."

"Isn't it a serious matter to take advantage of the Lost by posing as imposer?" (Renya)

It doesn't seem like falsifying one's identity will yield many advantages. While assessing it like this, Renya put on an inquiring look just in case.

“Similar to this time, those, who possess legitimate identification papers, are able to guarantee. Otherwise, in case there is no guarantor, the words of the requester can be checked upon their truth. If their words are deemed to be true, there won't be any problems and they can go on.” (Shion)

“How do you ascertain the authenticity of their words?” (Renya)

“There is a magic called <Judgment> ² which can ascertain it.” (Shion)

Renya was surprised about such unusual magic apparently similar to a lie detector.

While living in the pioneer village, it was also surprising to see the commonly widespread use of particular magic to create water or ignite a spark of fire.

As one would expect of another world, no matter how strange it was, it was still quite useful.

Speaking of useful, the same could be said of the card Shion's group used in order to proof their social status in front of the guards.

According to Shion, it was the guild card of the Adventurer's guild. The adventurer's guild had a huge sphere of influence. Wherever one went, the card served as valid substitute for identification papers, at least within the territory of the human race, that is.

Almost extending across the entire nation, there didn't seem to be any place where the card couldn't be used.

Also, not only in the eastern continent of the human race, but also in the western continent dominated by the elves and in the southern continent dominated by a mix of demi-humen and beastmen the card was in circulation to some extent.

Still, as one could have expected, apparently the dragon tribe and the demon clan didn't use the card at all.

Nevertheless, in total close to 60-70% of the entire continental area used the card as valid identification papers. Thus calling that card convenient was quite

understandable.

Apart from this, there were also identification papers which were issued by the feudal lord.³ Just that it was quite useless to obtain them, going by Shion's words.

"It would be different though, if Renya decided to not move away from this city."
(Shion)

Deciding to settle down could be called a really attractive alternative.

But considering Kami-sama's request to scatter the resources, it wasn't possible to say that settling in one place was a good thing.

Even assuming he set up a base at some point in time, the option of leading a hikikomori⁴ lifestyle didn't exist for Renya.

"It is only valid for one province after all?" (Renya)

"Un, basically the pass issued by the feudal lord is only valid within the province. The one issued by the state is only valid within its borders." (Shion)

"Though for common people it is quite sufficient if you consider that they don't need the excessive traveling of adventurers. Assuming Renya-san similarly wishes to make a living by being an adventurer, then you shouldn't hesitate about obtaining the guild card, you know." (Rona)

"Because of that very reason, we are guiding you to the adventurer's guild first. We have to report about the accepted request, too." (Shion)

Recalling the subject of reporting while speaking about it, Shion's expression got heavy and gloomy.

While hardly being able to investigate the forest itself, unpredictably their subjugation target, the goblins, spilled out from the forest. The result was the destruction of the pioneer's village.

Almost certainly they won't get any request reward. If things didn't go well, it wasn't unthinkable that they might be charged with some kind of penalty due to the failure of the request, too.

Conversely, Rona's smile didn't falter at all.

Contrary to the pessimistic Shion, she blamed the failure to investigate the forest itself on the hindrance by the accompanying party.

On the grounds that the village was destroyed, she pointed out that originally in such case it wouldn't been strange if they had been totally annihilated.

From the standpoint of letting about half of them getting away it was above all a success since more than 100 goblin bodies from those overflowing from within the forest had been cleaned up, too.

Thus she didn't seem to consider it to become such a particularly harsh issue.

Renya himself wasn't overly eager to go to the guild either, if one asked his true opinion.

At the time he met Shion's group, they were attacked by six ruffians. The matter which led to their deaths and the handling of their dead bodies wasn't anything he wanted to report.

Furthermore, Shion's group implicated that he might potentially be restrained to some degree.

Since the situation was as it was, he considered the case of him getting rid of the six people as trivial. As for the restraint of being a criminal, he would ask them to pardon it.

If it was possible, Renya felt like playing dumb and fleeing. Doing it that way, it would be necessary to part from Shion's group and depart for another city.

Although, in the first place on top of reporting about the matter on hand, Shion's group would report that the person concerned ran away, too.

Thus escaping to another city would very likely cause him to fall into a similar situation, which would put an end to his simple plans.

I will escape once the issue gets too troublesome, he decided.

For now I will follow their guidance as is, since I have no choice but to go and have a look

anyway, Renya leaked a heavy sigh.

CHAPTER 11

IT SEEMS TO BE AN ADVENTURER'S GUILD

In the business district there were various establishments. After merely a glimpse the streets seemed to be identical. Bars and shops similar to general stores were lined up in a row. No difference could be found between them.

Although acquiring directions beforehand, Renya would have been lost without someone leading him. He couldn't find the building he was aiming for.

Within his mind Renya had a preconception of the organization called the adventurer's guild. Something like: Somehow brawny and aroused with muscular ossan-tachi¹ smelling of sweat and manliness, brandishing their weapons and wearing armor extorted from apprentices who just joined the guild.

A dim store interior shrouded in smoke, where people had dubious conversations in *goso goso* sounds. In no way was it a decent organization.

Guided by Shion's group they turned up in front of a building. A crest of a sword and wand crossing was displayed above the entrance.

A conservative signboard with the title 「Adventurer's guild – Kukrika branch」 written on top was lonely hanging there. He determined that it was a normal building.

This might have potential, Renya judged.

This is not such a suspicious organization as I originally thought. If I had to define it, it has a gentle feeling.

*Truly, I don't understand how the hell they want to secure combat potential. An Oneechan who fully exposed her skin, a few taciturn, expressionless female magicians with rough bodies and an ikemen who excelled at using the sword and could use some additional magic. Enemies of such a game would certainly emerge right away, sending claims via mail to the management since the hero would be a protagonist going *kya kya* and *fufu.*² This seems to be such a place. You can't really call this an adventurer's guild.*

In this case I could judge myself to be totally out of place here. I don't think I want to stay here for even a second longer.

After coming to this world, Renya had not yet had the chance to accurately confirm his own facial features.

The glass in the pioneer's village didn't resemble a mirror at all. He also missed his chance to ask Shion and Rona to lend him one.

Although it was also because the situation didn't allow him to spend any time on such matters, either.

He only had absolute confidence in one thing.

That is, I am not the type of man you would call an ikemen, apparently.

*For this reason, I am not resembling a hero protagonist going *kya kya* and *fufu* with his harem party causing him to be plunged into hesitation and then to reliably finish with a happy end at all.*

In such an extreme case, most likely I would probably feel depressed being compared to the high-level surroundings while being so low-level myself.

As for this, at the time I was sent to this world, should I have asked that little girl kami-sama to transform me just a bit into a fine-looking man?

Pondering as far as that, Renya suddenly noticed.

*My memory concerning my previous life was supposedly erased by that little girl. Where in the hell did I learn this *kya kya* *fufu* stuff?*

Moreover I now suddenly understand that there was some problem in my previous life, Renya felt.

Maybe I might have been one of a less overly upright race.

Such a race who escaped the three-dimensional world to immerse themselves in the two-dimensional one without being able to take a stroll outside and seeing the sun shining before them.

If that was the case, what a useless way of passing my time up until the age of 94 that would have been.

“Renya ... although I don’t know what you are thinking about, doing what appears to be writhing and kneeling at the edge of the street ... you are becoming a nuisance for the passers-by.” (Shion)

As she was unable to watch Renya’s eccentric behavior any longer, Shion called out to him.



“No, I don’t want to go to the guild after all.” (Renya)

“After coming all this way? If you don’t register at the guild, you won’t be able to properly settle your social status. Exiting and entering the city won’t be possible either. If you don’t process that case with the mercenaries neatly, you will possibly become a criminal which may go so far as you having to flee and go into hiding.” (Shion)

“I will manage somehow.” (Renya)

“Somehow nothing. Give it up. Now come.” (Shion)

Seizing Renya forcibly by the nape of the neck, Shion pulled him up from his crouching position. Without changing her hold, she made sure to drag him along while going through the entrance way of the guild building.

There was no point in trying to resist her strong power. Making sure to avoid passing through the street, she dragged Renya through the main entrance.

Rona gracefully followed right behind them.

“I didn’t want to come here either if it were avoidable. But it’s my mistake after all, and looking at it objectively it is absolutely necessary to report it.” (Shion)

“Such a way of thinking... I thought it was just a manner of speaking, but ...” (Renya)

“What do you ...” (Shion)

Shion’s words were interrupted midways.

Looking around while being dragged along as is, Renya saw something resembling a suitable reception area.

On the other side of the counter, there was a person wearing a uniform with a sharp, straightforward design. She looked slightly older than Shion’s group, yet it was still a young woman with brown colored hair who stood there while smiling.

“Eto ... Shion’s and Rona’s party. We’ve returned from the request in the miasma-filled forest. I would like you to receive the report.” (Shion)

“Yes. Please wait for a moment while I examine the records.” (Receptionist)

After saying this, the woman at the reception counter took out something like a register and looked through it while turning the pages.

Renya used the chance to let his eyes wander over the interior of the guild.

In contrast to what Renya had expected, there was nothing that looked like a gloomy bar-room. Sunlight flooded through a huge window to maintain the brightness within the room. It felt like a pleasant meeting place.

Bookshelves with something like documents organized within, a bulletin board plastered with request labels, a place used for meetings and appointments, a counter offering light meals, several tables where one could eat and drink. Such was the design.

The people coming and going also, there was nothing like a harem party which had worried Renya before.

People with the air of veterans wearing reasonably worn-out equipment and youngsters clad in brand new gear. The ratio was about fifty-fifty.

The gender ratio also was praiseworthy as it didn't really tilt to either side. Many of the guild staff members apparently were women. It went to such a degree that you could say the scales of gender distribution was slightly slanting towards the majority being women.

“Eto... ‘Investigation of the miasma-filled forest’ request, right? ...The records state the request was accepted by 8 people. Is that correct?” (Receptionist)

“Ah, it is necessary to report some things about this matter ...” (Shion)

As it was difficult to talk about, Shion didn't seem eager to explain. After thinking for a moment, the woman at reception said,

“It appears that there was quite a bit trouble, huh?. That way, an inner room has been prepared.” (Receptionist)

“Understood. And, this person who is accompanying us is involved as well. But before that, he'd like to go ahead and register at the guild. Can I leave it to you?” (Shion)

In the state of having the nape of his neck tightly grabbed by Shion and being held up just like a cat, Renya was shown to the woman at the reception counter.

Coming as far as this, there is no particular need to try escaping, Renya thought while having the nape of his neck held tightly. He raised one hand.

“Hello there.” (Renya)

“Hello in return. It somehow seems to be serious...” (Receptionist)

The woman at the reception counter wasn’t perturbed at all. Renya sensed her professional personality.

Come to think of it, from the beginning the smile of that woman hadn’t waned in the least.

“Somehow he seems to be a Lost. At least that’s what he declared himself to be.” (Shion)

“Ara, that’s also quite unusual.” (Receptionist)

Although there was a hint of surprise mixed within her voice, her facial expression didn’t falter even a bit.

Even if they said it’s rare, maybe there are quite a few Lost wandering around here and there? Renya became slightly anxious.

Having no memory of his previous world, he prayed to Kami-sama that there weren’t any more people being Lost in this place in the same circumstances as him. Because he felt that his prayers had the strength to travel to the place of that little girl, he prayed for something different.

The receptionist stowed away the register below the counter in an accustomed manner. In exchange she took out one piece of paper.

“This is a registration application sheet.” (Receptionist)

Renya accepted the document and roughly looked over it, as Shion had quietly removed her hand from the nape of his neck.

The words written there weren't overly difficult or different.

There were entries for full name, gender and age. Furthermore the guild rules that are to be followed as closely as possible written in the way an oath would be were noted down on the application form.

All that had to be said was covered with this.

"This is quite simple, isn't it?" (Renya)

"Because it would be unreasonable to write it in difficult words... If we went as far as using difficult words, almost no one would choose the road of being an adventurer."
(Receptionist)

While nonchalantly smiling as before, she declared this.

That's the way of life, Renya thought.

Certainly speaking of the adventurer occupation, it might be somehow reputed to be cool. But it is a totally different matter altogether to say those words under the sun while puffing out your chest in pride.

"No, usually such things as investigations are mocked..." (Shion)

Unconsciously leaking his words, Shion rebutted glumly. He ignored her.

"I will protect the rules as far as it is practically possible. Will that be sufficient?"
(Renya)

While he asked the receptionist, he filled out the full name entry with 「Renya Kunugi」, put his age down as a suitable 18 years and the gender as male. The woman at the reception nodded in agreement.

Rona, who spied on the age field, leaked a 「Ee~」 in a tiny voice without being aware of it.

I think maybe I should have considered to state myself to be older.

Since I am in truth 94 years old there would have been no reason to go and complain about it either.

“Absolute compliance to the rules is impossible.” (Receptionist)

In the early stage after founding the adventurer’s guild, there was a movement to implement a lot of rules to be kept, too.

However, as a result adventurers who were arrested for breaking the rules appeared one after the other.

The situation escalated to the point that it got difficult to dispatch adventurers for regular duty. After shaving away some of the rules here and there, it eventually became the current standard, explained the receptionist.

While thinking that it was a very understanding and agreeable organization, he moved his eyes to the rules written on the application form.

There the rules written as numbered items were indeed very concise.

First rule: Killing fellow guild members is strictly forbidden.

With the exception that there is a reason for it.

Second rule: The guild members offer their services only through the guild.

As for this, there are no limits on jobs being physical or consultation in nature.

Third rule: If something is unclear, consult the reception counter about the issue.

Fourth rule: Basically, the guild leader is the Law.

In a branch, the branch leader is the Law.

“Only this ...?” (Renya)

Come on, that’s just too simple. Renya, feeling visibly exhausted, inquired. The receptionist decisively nodded.

I fear that it’s likely that this exchange has repeated many times with new adventurers who just registered.

“Yes, only this... Did you really think I would say that? In reality there are a lot more

rules with various details enlisted for each ..." (Receptionist)

The receptionist let out a breath of sighing.

For some reason that small sigh carried a lot of anxiety. Without knowing why there was a slight stir behind Renya.

"Even if I asked all adventurers to remember all the rules, it would be impossible." (Receptionist)

Although he didn't know how to answer, Renya floated a subtle smile.

Maybe all the adventurers of this world could be described in such words as muscle-brains and baka, which could be said to have the same meaning. The fear that this might be the case emerged again within him.

"Because of this, the most important rules you have to take care of keeping are Rule 1 and 2. And at various places you will have to go with the flow and deal with Rule 3 and 4." (Receptionist)

"For the time being, it is a well thought-out system." (Renya)

"Then, with that being said, the application form is done for a Lost. Originally there are a few other application forms with entries to be filled in like birthplace and religious faith. I don't think those apply for a Lost though." (Receptionist)

After confirming the entries Renya finished by signing the written oath on the application form. Then he returned the sheet to the receptionist.

Could the information in the entries be leaked? Even though I say that, there are only 4 points written there. No choice, I guess.

The receptionist verified the contents, folded the form and put it into her breast pocket on the uniform.

"Issuing the card will take a bit of time. During that time, please move to the room that has been prepared in the back." (Receptionist)

The indicated door was on the other side of the counter. On a first glance it was an ordinary door.

However, just looking at that door, Renya felt something unpleasant causing him to frown.

Shion's group didn't notice this change of facial expression.

"I have no motivation to head over there but I guess it can't be helped... Who is on the other side of that door?" (Renya)

"The vice-guild leader is waiting."

"Is that so? ...Renya, you are more or less related to the situation in the report as well. I would like you to go inside with us. Do you mind?" (Shion)

The behavior of Shion, who asked the question, seemed somehow apologetic.

"I don't mind, neither do I care. That was the intention from the start, don't you agree?" (Renya)

Renya replied with an expression of 'Isn't it a little late to ask that?' Shion nodded slightly.

By the way, Rona still expressed a smile in this situation. Up until now there really were no signs showing of it breaking down.

"Although that's true ... Because the other party is a companion, I wanted to make sure you were ready." (Shion)

With merely this brief comment, it was plainly visible that Shion's group didn't want to go and meet the person waiting on the other side of the door.

"Maa, the situation is similar to a ship that has already sailed.³" (Renya)

"Thank you ... we will make sure to not cause too many additional troubles ... although we can't promise it definitely." (Shion)

Listening to the sound of earnest worry within Shion's tone, Renya started to seriously consider securing an escape route.

Translation Notes

¹ Group of middle-aged men.

² Renya basically means that any game protagonist who chooses a party from the current selection would most likely be an unlikable, easygoing pervert, which would lead to a torch and pitchfork revolt by the people who purchased the game. So Renya's initial impression of the guild is quite low for an organized "military" structure.

³ It has already happened, so there's no helping anyway.

CHAPTER 11.5

IT SEEMS TO BE INTERLUDE 3

“What is such a peerless state called?” (Giliel)

While watching the battle scenery on a displayed translucent window suspended in midair, Giliel murmured in admiration.

Displayed was the scene where Renya was fighting the goblins at the pioneer’s village.

Right in the midst of the gathered goblins, Renya’s expression was bloodcurdling as he brandished his roughly formed axe. Or rather his lips could be seen to be curled into a thin smile as he was wielding his weapon.

Grasping the weapon with both hands and brandishing it in intervals, such things as the goblin’s heads, arms and other things were pathetically whirled into the air due to the strength of the impacts together with the spraying of blood.

In the right upper corner of the displayed terminal screen there was the word 「R E C」 visible. Even if it was a recording, it wasn’t clear who was the one doing the recording for Giliel either.

“This degree can’t be really called peerless, now can it?”

was answered in cold words.

The one answering and looking at the same terminal screen was the little girl kamisama. Giliel inclined her head to the side in doubt to the contents of the her remark.

“Such a degree?” (Giliel)

“Regarding the results of this battle, Renya has slain one Goblin Leader and 87 goblins, right? Such a result is an easy feat for intermediate-ranked people in this world.” (Chibi)

If the little girl was right about this, it came down to Renya cleaning up 80% of the goblin horde attacking the pioneer’s village by himself from the start.

Assuming that this was the truth after careful examination, it can be said with certainty that the little girl isn't telling a lie. That's a considerable battle result for a single person, Giliel thought.

Rather, won't it be quite a conspicuous performance for an inhabitant of this world trying to achieve the same result so easily, even while possessing the ability of an intermediate rank?

Of course, if Giliel were in the same situation, she had the confidence to end it in an instant even if the amount of enemies would increase by a some hundreds. But then again it would be a mistake in itself to compare this with such a precondition.

“He didn't use any magic and neither did he manage to master the skill I gave him. In the first place, that weapon goes beyond poor quality. Firstly, considering the combat ability Renya displayed in his previous world, it had a more stylish and agile disposition. In the end the erasure of his memory apparently led to a certain extent of a blank state in regards to his battle experience. I guess, I went slightly too far there.”
(chibi)

The little girl was harshly rebuking him with her words.

Isn't it your fault that he lost those two, memories and weapons, in the first place? Giliel felt deeply like saying this to her but managed to endure keeping silent.

As a matter of fact, reflecting on the data Giliel possessed about Renya, just the skill allowed him to possibly overcome the resistance of about 100 goblin opponents with only brute force without using any of his other abilities.

The skill <Super Recovery> allowed a person to recover from a received injury and lost stamina several tens of times faster than usual. It was a more or less ordinary Invoked type of skill. It was a skill that had to consciously be activated to display its original performance.

Renya wasn't very good at 「using」 this skill by intuition. You could say that he was using it at its minimal effect of invocation as it wasn't actually accompanied by a real feeling of the skill.

“Related to the weapon, Giliel, I thought I had entrusted this matter to you, hadn't I?”
(chibi)

Being pointedly stared at, Giliel suddenly broke out in a cold sweat. In order to not show her startled facial expression, she quietly bowed her head.

“The timing wasn’t right yet. I am very sorry.” (Giliel)

She swallowed the words, that she couldn’t imagine a good timing for that in the first place either.

“Oh well, it’s fine. Please hurry as much as possible. I wouldn’t be able to stand watching Renya-san die because his weapon was insufficient.” (chibi)

“Yes, I will take the necessary measures immediately. All things considered...” (Giliel)

While the image displayed on the translucent window changed from the battle scene to the gate of some city, Giliel searched for the right words to change the topic.

Although she didn’t intent to slack on her assigned job in the least, being repeatedly called an amateur by the person in charge wasn’t amusing at all.

“The situation seems to be advancing smoothly enough.” (Giliel)

“In this world ‘Lost’ themselves are not at a level of being called a rare existence either, but rather it’s a reasonable degree of recognizing them as unusual, you know. However, that’s the problem here.” (chibi)

At the gate of the city, Renya caused some trouble with the provincial guards. As the women accompanying him managed to quell the situation so he could pass, the little girl watching this scene leaked a sigh.

Certainly, judging by the reactions of his surroundings, he was at best perceived as a somehow rare occurrence, despite him being a person of another world. The extent of rarity was far from astonishment and even further from confusion.

“Is there a problem?” (Giliel)

“It’s a problem, for example that.” (chibi)

The little girl pointed at the window.

The shown scene stopped.

“This scene is, the scene where a Lost tries to enter the city. In this case the reason for not letting him into the city is the lack of him possessing the identification papers representing his social status. However, the Lost is let into the city without even understanding the issue with the identification papers. There is even the exemption of him not having to pay the toll even though he is someone not holding the proper identification papers, and yet he succeeds in entering.” (chibi)

Usually a person not holding any identification papers is taken to the guards office as a consequence in order to be interrogated. After the truth of their claim is judged, they will be issued temporary identification papers. Furthermore they have to pay a commission fee, the little girl supplemented.

Even in the case of a Lost, if there is a guarantor for their identity, they are supposed to loan the commission fee to the Lost.

“So what’s the problem?” (Giliel)

“As for this, Lost don’t know about these issues upon entering the city and are generally penniless to begin with. The inhabitants of this world are aware of this fact for sure since it’s a kind of usual historical custom.” (chibi)

‘Do you understand?’ the little girl asked with her gestures. Giliel was puzzled as she didn’t comprehend what the heck was the significance of this matter.

In front of the difficult pupil who failed to understand the significance of her words, the little girl acting like a sensei heaved a single sigh and continued.

“The Lost caused something like a dispute at the entrance gate to the city as he doesn’t possess the common sense of this world’s inhabitants. In the first place, only a few days have passed since he came to to this world in this case. Do you think that people in this situation, unlike Renya-san and without calling out for anyone else to help them out, have the currency of this world at hand?” (chibi)

“That is... very likely they don’t.” (Giliel)

From the start Lost were people summoned from another world. You could say with certainty that they were people who dropped unexpectedly into a dimensional vortex ending up in this world as a result.

Naturally, the only luggage they brought along would be from their previous world, if

at all. For them to originally have the currency of this world in possession had a possibility of about nil.

“Although one might ask the penniless to pay, it is plainly impossible for them to do so. Thus they are exempted from paying out of pity. That is the widely spread way of thinking in regards to this matter. The inhabitants of this world have many chances to get in contact with people from other worlds and that’s the reason why it is a problem.” (chibi)

“Um, that is...?” (Giliel)

Giliel repeated this basic question once more as she didn’t grasp what the problem was.

If it is strictly regulated how to deal with Lost, then there won’t be any pointless confusion and problems either. For the side sending in the Lost, in other words us, isn’t that something beneficial?

“You still don’t understand, huh? ...If supervisor was inexperienced then it probably can’t really be helped. In other words, the frequent amount of people falling into the dimensional vortexes and ending up in this world serves as proof of the fragile instability of this world.” (chibi)

The image displayed in the window was erased with a swing of her arm. While using that hand scratching her head roughly, the little girl said while quite annoyed.

“What was the <method of dealing with a person from another world> in Renya-san’s previous world then? Wasn’t there any? Maybe this could be used to fix the problem of stability in this world as an example?” (Giliel)

“Certainly.” (chibi)

“The Supervisors¹ of that world should notice this issue as well. Although they have to be aware of it, they don’t seem to have a method of dealing with it either. Or maybe this problem is so insignificant to them that they don’t even realize it exists? That would be a big problem for sure.” (Giliel)

“Can’t you stop the leakage of resources?” (Giliel)

Because this was outside of Giliel’s jurisdiction, she was not fully aware of the details

of this matter.

Concerned whether she should or should not inquire further, she was slightly hesitant to ask. The little girl showed no signs of trying to hide it and readily nodded in agreement.

“Since the amount of souls flowing out keeps decreasing, there is a trend of reduction. Still, as the leak hasn’t been completely stopped, the resources will be exhausted in the end.” (chibi)

“That’s a serious problem.” (Giliel)

As Giliel wasn’t able to actually feel it happening based on her own observations, the matter of dispatching Renya to a world that would be destroyed in the end anyway didn’t really relate to her in any way. The only exception was that she wouldn’t be caught actually uttering words like that. The little girl ceased to scratch her head and folded her arms.

“It’s serious indeed. Though it might be something that is not really of any consequence to someone here.” (chibi)

The little girl threw her a bitter glance. Giliel was afraid that she was able to read her mind. Of course, this doubt didn’t show on Giliel’s face even for a moment.

Even if the time he spent living was equal to about zero in comparison to the little girl’s lifetime, she was still an angel who had seen quite a few months and years pass by. She had mastered that skill to remain blank in such a situation better by far than any human.

Watching the unmoving Giliel with a raised brow, the little girl wondered how long Giliel would endure being glared at. Then she snorted as she got bored of it.

“Completely uncute...” (chibi)

“As the number of my years passed has entered the thousands, there is no reason for any cuteness to be left in me.” (Giliel)

As she returned an indifferent expression and abstained from openly showing any kind of emotions, the little girl clicked her tongue lightly and averted her gaze from Giliel.

“Anyway, Renya-san is scattering resources right now. There is no other choice but to stand back and observe how much the world will be able to recover.” (chibi)

“What’s the likelihood of recovery?” (Giliel)

“Although it’s not zero, it’s at the most a slim chance. Even if we assume it to advance favorably, it still would require about several decades of keeping up this pace. In the worst case the world will break down before Renya-san uses up his life span.” (chibi)

“In such a case, do I have your permission to rescue only Renya-san?” (Giliel)

Even though she considered it to be an ill-natured question, Giliel couldn’t resist but to confirm it by asking this question with a serious expression.

For the Overseer of Everything, the little girl, it wouldn’t do to give preferential treatment to a single individual.

Even if you counted in the fact that it was the little girl who sent Renya to this world.

‘Renya, when this world perishes, you will perish alongside it.’ No matter how much of a god you are yourself, that is not something you should ever say, she had concluded.

Even considering that, it would be a far too shameless and self-interested order to give, saving only one person in an entire world.

That’s the sort of decision one agonizes over, right? She only thought.

“Yes, you have permission.” (chibi)

Although the answer was short, it was immediate.

The contents were satisfactory to Giliel causing her to unintentionally lift the corners of her lips into a smile.

In order for the little girl to not realize this, Giliel courteously bent at the waist and bowed towards the little girl.

“As you wish. Everything shall happen as the honorable you has intended.” (Giliel)

Giliel’s shape slowly started to fade and, before long, vanished.

The little girl saw her off waiting for Giliel's presence to completely disappear. After ample time had passed, she abruptly muttered while looking at the sky,

"The die has been cast²... I wonder if I failed to give her a proper name... undoubtedly a bud of free will has begun to sprout in that serious girl... I wish that it would hurry up." (chibi)

The angels of the world generally had no name.

Although it could be said that it came from negligence of having to name each of the hundreds of millions of angels, in reality, giving a name was an important component of defining the personality above all else. There was such a reason as well.

Therefore, in order for some of the duties to be fulfilled a respective name was given to them. In order to abide by the command of protecting Renya, that angel was named as Giliel and it seems the foundations of her personality have begun to be laid. That's something that caused the little girl to worry as well.

"Is this good luck or rather bad luck? ...Really, who suggested that kami-sama was omnipotent? I want them to slightly reconsider this after seeing my current state in this place. Good grief..." (chibi)

Throwing her head back while being at her wits' end, the little girl spit out those words filled with negative emotions. The sound of those words were lost to silence without having reached anyone's heart, including the little girl's.

Translation Notes

¹ Chibi-kami-sama is not speaking about mid level bureaucratic supervisors here, who would be giving instructions to the guards, or processing paperwork, or even educating angelic subordinates. She is talking about the Supervisors of the planet that were suppose to be keeping things running smoothly. This entire process is a complaining comment on her part that the semi-deities she put in charge of the world don't understand just how crappy a job they are doing.

² Literally, "the nail has been stuck in." Basically, "What's been done cannot be undone," which is not something an all powerful kami-sama should be saying!

CHAPTER 12

THE DEPUTY BRANCH LEADER SEEMS TO BE AN UNPLEASANT GUY

Passing through the door they were directed to, there was a small bright room beyond it.

There were hardly any furnishings placed in the room. In the center of the room there was a lonely desk with two chairs facing it from across the table. That was all that was present in this room.

Incidentally, Renya picked up a weird sensation as he entered through the door, but he remained silent about it as Shion and Rona hadn't mentioned anything before entering the room.

Inside the room there was one man sitting on a chair.

It was impossible to determine his age from his looks.

His slender face was small with a pale colored complexion. His blond hair spilled down, exceeding his shoulders in length. His firm body build told anyone on the first look that he was male. However comparing him to the adventurers within the guild's building you could call him very slender, almost to the extent of being thin.

His eyes were narrow, giving off a feeling of being tired.¹

One way or the other it was possible to perceive that the color of his eye were green.

The tailored robe he was wearing gave off a pleasant feeling and was colored navy blue.

No decorations could be seen on the robe except a single item appearing to be a silver medal hanging at the height of his chest.

"Yaa, nice of you to come to visit." (-)



Without standing up, he greeted them in a soft voice. Shion lightly bowed her head.

Also, as if being prompted into it, Rona bowed as well. Somehow Renya got the feeling that it wouldn't be a good idea to not follow up on it either and thus he bowed himself in the end as well.

"It has been a while, honored deputy branch leader"(Shion)²

While raising her head again, Shion spoke those words. Somehow her voice seemed as if she were squeezing them out though.

How to say it, it seems as if she doesn't want to talk to this person if at all possible – that was the impression her voice emitted but was that really fine? At any rate, it is quite obvious that she wants to leave this place even if it is a second sooner. Renya carefully observed the seated vice-guild leader while trying to ascertain the reason for her dislike to remain here.

"It's futile, Lost" (-)

Has he noticed my particular look of observation? The deputy branch leader shifted his attention towards Renya.

The gaze of his barely opened eyes emitted a deeper comprehension. It reminded Renya somehow of a snake or lizard or some other kind of the reptile family. Somehow Renya felt a cold shiver run down his spine.

"Well, just by looking, you won't be able to understand why those girls have such antipathy towards me. After all, my outer appearance is perfect." (-)

"Please teach me where this unfounded confidence comes from." (Renya)

Laughing with a grinning face, the deputy branch leader appeared to really be a fairly gentle mannered man. His calm expression didn't seem to have any faults either, or at least none that were easily seen through.

Yet, the degree of Shion's impression of him appears to rank him as someone with a poor reputation.

How about Rona? Renya tried to read Rona's facial expression. There he could only find her usual mask of a smiling face stuck there as it was, making a suitable judgment

quite difficult.

“Since Shion and Rona already know about me, I should introduce myself to the Lost over there, huh? I am the deputy branch leader in charge of this adventurer’s guild branch in Kukrika, Fritz =³ Rustbrid (*T/N: >> Furitsu = Rusutoburido <<*). Pleased to make your acquaintance.” ⁴ (Fritz)

“I am Renya. Leaving that aside, how long are we supposed to stand around here?” (Renya)

All three of them had entered the room and immediately stopped short without trying to approach the desk.

Renya stood still in a wait-and-see situation, while the remaining two didn’t seem to be interested in approaching the desk in the first place. Upon Renya’s words, they looked at Renya with an expression that seemed to be slightly threatening.

“To share a table with the deputy branch leader, there is no way I could do something so presumptuous.” (Shion)

“Why don’t you just frankly admit that you aren’t eager to approach me physically without saying such unnecessary things?” (Fritz)

Fritz completely cut off and disregarded Shion’s weak attempt to cover her refusal with sugarcoated words.

Shion didn’t see any reason to refute his words and thus remained silent.

With such behavior she proved Fritz’s words to be true.

“So you don’t deny it.” (Fritz)

“There is no such reason.” (Shion)

Laughter resounded from within Fritz’s throat while Shion gave a depressed reply.

Compared to Shion’s group, with all due respect, Fritz was still their superior. However, one couldn’t see Fritz taking an attitude of being offended by this obvious considerable discourtesy either. If you had to say it, he wore a hint of amusement towards it.

For a moment, the thought of him being a masochist crossed Renya's mind, but he denied this possibility himself right away.

If he thought about unnecessary things, he had a feeling that it would be visible on his face.

"This much is just the usual trifling exchange between us. Let's hear your report, right? The request was to investigate the miasma-filled forest. I heard the number, who accepted it, were 8 people. Leaving out the Lost, there are only the two of you here, isn't that right?" (Fritz)

Such an exchange is the norm, huh? Renya felt dejected after hearing this. *Shion and Rona have become accustomed to this back and forth exchange without obviously minding it, huh?*

"The other six people attacked us within the forest while we were investigating. Upon chance we received Renya's help there which is also why he is currently accompanying us." (Shion)

"Ah, I can somehow understand. Excluding your personalities, you are beautiful women after all. With the setting of a secluded forest, devoid of any people, it is quite understandable that the outnumbering men would take such an attitude in such a situation, too. If they knew about the personalities of the women they targeted, they likely wouldn't have resorted to using violence either, though." (Fritz)

He repeatedly made such similar comments, Renya thought in disgust.

Directly confronting Fritz, Shion limited herself to scowling at him. Staying in the back, Rona began to spill killing intent while concealing it behind her still smiling face.

While Rona wears no plainly visible weapons, you can never be sure what kind of skill with the various offensive magic systems she might be capable of using, Renya judged.

Although he had only accompanied them for a short time, he understood that Rona wasn't the type of person to attack without any reason. *I pray this impression of her won't have to be changed in this meeting,* he thought, too.

"And then? Those six people are?" (Fritz)

"After Renya defeated them, we returned leaving them alone back in the forest."

(Shion)

“Hou? As many as six adventurers originating from the Mercenary Kingdom all by himself, huh?” (Fritz)

Showing something like interest for the first time, Fritz turned his gaze towards Renya.

It is quite clearly a gaze carrying a feeling of a rotten tongue taking a taste of you. It's quite true that it can't be helped if you are slightly disgusted by this sensation either, he judged in the end.

“I caught them by surprise. The other party was careless as well. It's not easy to tell what would have happened if I attacked them from the front. I was lucky.” (Renya)

Although that explanation wasn't requested, Renya somehow had the feeling that it was wrong to stay silent.

Fritz showed his agreement to these words by nodding several times over.

“I see. I see. However, if that's the case, all three of you, not giving a care for the situation, decided to let six people of the same guild die without helping and returned. Is that how you can summarize it?” (Fritz)

“That's wrong.”

Shion was at a loss for words.

Rona kept any comments locked within her heart and remained silent. Renya cut into the conversation by rebutting without a moment's delay.

Shion and Rona faced Renya with a surprised expression. For the time being he had to be careful in addition to keeping Fritz's attention. Renya took a single step forward coming out of Shion's shadow.

“At the point in time I had defeated them, two of them were already dead. It was clear that the remaining four would die before long as well. Therefore, anything related to those six people should be attributed only to me.” (Renya)

“Going ahead and putting forward such a suggestion, wasn't it those two over there who told you to say this?” (Fritz)

“Even assuming that’s right, it was I who came along and intruded on the situation in order to rescue them. This caused the current scenario. You can say that it was I who made the final decision.” (Renya)

“That is ...” (Shion)

Although Shion started to say something, she stopped her words halfway.

Looking back over his shoulder, Renya could see Rona placing her hand on Shion’s shoulder holding her back as Shion was trying to say something.

Somehow or other he was able to confirm that they left this situation for him to deal with. Renya turned back to Fritz.

“These are the facts regarding the circumstances of the situation. If there are any problems, please tell me.” (Renya)

Renya slightly stressed the “please tell me” adding an emphasis to the words.

Guessing the meaning behind it, Fritz expressed a smile.

“Problems, huh? ...It seems you don’t understand a thing about the young ladies at your back.” (Fritz)

While sensing the anger of the two in the rear swelling, Renya appealed with his eyes to not say anything unnecessary while keeping his expression blank.

Renya wasn’t certain whether Fritz had understood it, but Fritz nodded slightly.

“As for the current exchange, there is no problem. The young ladies were attacked within the forest by the accompanying six men. This fact is no mistake either. There, you came along and saved them. There’s no problem with this either. And then you left the six people behind after defeating them. Whether that is really a humane thing to do, certainly all of you can reconsider this fact. However, I can feel sympathy towards this behavior considering that dealing with six male brutes who assaulted two women won’t invite a humane approach in dealing with them.” (Fritz)

Fritz cut off his speech at this point joining his hands together and placing his elbows on the table.

“This was carried out by you all following Shion’s leadership. But, at any rate, the reason for deciding how to deal with the problem is somewhat necessary.” (Fritz)

So it comes down to this, Renya fixed his gaze on the smiling Fritz while bearing a deep seeded disgust.

I fear that it’s likely that Shion’s group is included in the ‘you all’ party for sharing joint responsibility. Shion’s group has broken the guild rules. But because a part of the circumstances were not their fault to begin with, there will be some kind of compromise. Although looking at it from this standpoint, it has an indication that there will be some kind of penalty imposed upon us.

Since I am not taking the full brunt, it shouldn’t be a big penalty, Renya thought while looking at Fritz’s smiling face.

At most it would maybe be working for free one time, huh?’

Having defended Shion from the beginning, I truly didn’t originally think that he would use this approach to deal with the matter of this current case.

“Such an incident may cause a decrease in your reputation though, don’t you agree?”
5 (Renya)

“Let me see... what are you talking about?” (Fritz)

It was Renya who couldn’t help but comment on this, but Fritz easily played dumb.

“In any case, everything related to this matter has been understood. The Lost won’t be restrained, either. Though I am not aware of whether there is any bereaved family which has yet to be contacted, I will tell them that they died in an accident after breaking the guild rules.” (Fritz)

“I understand. Thank you very much.” (Shion)

Behind Renya, Shion bowed towards Fritz’s words while her expression became stiff.

“And the request to investigate the miasma-filled forest? What’s the state?” (Fritz)

“Reporting. The situation within the forest is bad. From the fact that the Goblin Leader led his group of goblins to assault the pioneer’s village, it can be deemed to be obvious.

Due to the increase in the monsters activity and the resulting danger from that, I request to be allowed to resume the investigation.” (Shion)

Wearing a hard expression, Shion raised one hand stopping Renya before he could say anything and reported without any hesitation. Fritz’s expression changed into a puzzled look.

From Fritz’s view, there was truly no reason to consider a Lost to step up in this situation.

“As evidence for the appearance of a Goblin Leader, the recovered magic core was submitted. In relation to the scale of the subjugated group of goblins, I think you will be able to understand by the amount of simultaneously submitted magic cores. From the raided pioneer’s village roughly half of the villagers could be rescued. I’d like you to evaluate the point of the rescue efforts even considering that it likely isn’t part of the request’s original contents.” (Shion)

“Half of them were rescued? Isn’t more appropriate to say half of them were allowed to die?” (Fritz)

“Half of them were rescued, is what I said. If we hadn’t concerned ourselves with their rescue, the topic would be about their total annihilation, don’t you think?” (Shion)

Remaining seated, obviously waiting for something more while watching intently with upturned eyes, Fritz’s expression didn’t change at all as he waited for the report to end. Openly looking down on them, Renya caught this gaze.

“Is anything wrong?” (Renya)

Urging him to reply in the same way, Renya inquired. Fritz shook his head left and right.

“It’s not what you said, but how you chose your words to suit the situation, isn’t it?” (Fritz)

“Well, those words don’t answer my question, now do they?” (Renya)

Renya answered curtly with cold words.

Fritz expressed a bitter smile and released his joined hands striking upon the table

once with a *panto.*

“I see. I have received your report. It’s just as you said. It would be best to continue the investigation. Other interested parties will be recruited to continue the investigation” (Fritz)

“As previously mentioned, I think they accomplished their request with this, what do you think?” (Renya)

“The completion of the request is approved. It is fine to receive the reward at the counter outside.” (Fritz)

“We wish to express our gratitude for your understanding. Let’s go, you two” (Rona)

After expressing their thanks and having no remaining business left here, Renya turned his back on Fritz. Shion wanted to say something, but for some reason while giving an impression of satisfaction, Rona prompted both of them to head for the exit.

From behind, Fritz called out.

“Renya-kun, is it your intention to act together with these children?” (Fritz)

“Well, I wonder about that.” (Renya)

Without turning around Renya answered the question and left the room.

Watching them go, Fritz waited for the door to close leaning back while exhaling a single big breath. Suddenly he straightened his back and looked up to the ceiling.

“Well, well, the plans have derailed slightly... With this and that, I wonder if there was enough progress?” (Fritz)

Naturally, there was no voice answering him in the room.

Translation Notes

¹Literally, “his eyes were hanging.”

² The words used by Shion from here on towards the Deputy Branch Leader are from the “Very Polite” section of the Japanese language, which has certain characteristics. One being that the sentences have a lot more words for the same amount of content, and another being that it’s hard to capture the depth of how self-diminutive and other personal praise is being given in a translation to a language that does not have a similar substrata of its vocabulary. Hence this note, and the universal frustration of translators the world over.

³ = is the equal sign, not the number two

⁴ “Yoroshiku” ...can be phrased in many ways but generally it means something like “nice to meet you” or “my best regards.” I opted for a more formal way.

⁵ Or less politely, “If people found out you were hiring rapists, then your reputation would take a severe hit, don’t you think?” In Japan, a flawless reputation is very meaningful, so suggesting that it would be damaged is a very useful method for having incidents quietly swept under the rug.

CHAPTER 13

IT SEEMS TO BE AN INVITATION

The figures of the two suns set below the horizon and in return three moons rose.

In other words, it was the time called night.

Everyone began to slowly head home, almost all the shops closed and the daily city scape was replaced with the occasional drunken person roaming the streets and figures of people starting to head towards the amusement facilities.

The form of Renya could be seen within a building functioning as an inn and bar.

It seemed the public house's interior was lit by tallow candles while giving off an intensely scented smoke. The pub was already filled with plenty of guests who were in a hustle and bustle as they were already quite drunk. Eating a quiet meal in this situation of being surrounded by noise was impossible. As this appeared to be the usual state of the place, Renya decided to not mind it.

Originally he had intended to choose a more peaceful place, but in regards to Shion's advice, it was more or less the same in every pub with little to no differences. As he was told that the situation would be similar wherever he went, he decided to give up halfway. Shion's group decided to pick a pub called 「Peerless Illusion¹」.

After the exchange with Fritz at the guild's branch, Renya's group got their reward for the investigation request at the reception counter, Renya received his guild card, and they submitted the collected magic cores. As soon as they finished their business at the guild, they immediately left the building.

After the magic cores were appraised and examined, they would receive the sum of the sales, the receptionist told them.

Verifying this, Shion gave her opinion of accepting this procedure in order to avoid the chance of encountering Fritz again should they wait around for the sales process to conclude when they could just return later. As for Renya, he wished to stay a bit longer in the guild to listen to the various stories, if he had to describe his feelings, and thus he was a bit dissatisfied by the early departure.

For the time being, he had only received a simple explanation and thus he tried to sort through the information.

1.) Violating the rules will lead to punishment.

The lightest penalty would be a trifling fine while the maximum would be capital punishment.

In case the offender escaped, there would be a wanted notice handed out to all guilds.

The intelligence network of the adventurer's guild seemed to be quite formidable. Since the establishment of the guild there has been no fugitive who managed to escape completely after being wanted. The receptionist told them proudly.

Once it reached the stage of being put on the wanted list, it didn't matter anymore whether the fugitive was returned dead or alive. The people appropriate for the pursuit would receive a request from the guild. The request was profitable to the degree that it resulted in each adventurer going into a frenzy. Given that, it apparently became almost impossible to successfully escape.

2.) Adventurers got a rank.

The ranks were divided into seven levels named S, A, B, C, D, E and F. S was pretty much the highest rank.

Usually it was decided by ability, taking into account what degree of services they contributed to the guild to determine the rank they should get. To become a Rank S adventurer, almost heroic deeds were necessary, Renya was told.

Among the Rank S adventurers, there was another rank of SS created in order to distinguish those who particularly towered above the others in ability. As they were already outside of the standard, this was not thought of as a separate rank. Apparently there were currently only five people recognized as SS rank.

Although Renya wanted to obtain information on those five people, he was dragged outside the guild by Shion before he could manage to inquire about them.

By the way, when he asked Shion's group what rank they were, he received "F" as a reply.

Since it hasn't been long since they became adventurers, it was a natural state of affairs.

Of course the rank inscribed on Renya's guild card was F as well.

Afterwards, in order to replace the armor that was broken at the time of the attack of the goblin horde and for the sake of procuring a precise weapon, Renya, who was unfamiliar with this city, asked Shion to introduce him to a shop. At the recommended shop he obtained leather armor and a longsword.²

The whole set cost him 1 gold coin.

Renya didn't really know whether this was expensive or cheap in relation to the typical market price. As it could be seen as an item that would be frequently used, Rona stated "Maa, it's proper equipment." and Renya decided to believe her.

In relation to the quality, Renya examined it with his appraisal skill. Both seemed to be typical grade 2 goods on the market.

Although Shion recommended metal armor with zeal, Renya politely refused considering the troublesome weight that would impede his movement and the high price he wouldn't be able to afford, and thus would have no advantages over leather.

Renya had wished for a much better weapon, there was nothing else than this according to the shopkeeper. So he had no other option but to give up on obtaining anything better.

Obtaining the longsword, it wasn't easily discernible whether it was produced to be used for smashing and crushing rather than cutting after all. The way the steel was manufactured was obviously very rough upon inspection with Renya's eyes.

First of all the mass of steel was heated up, then it was stroke into the form of a sword. This level of weapon was a typical thing for this world. *The probability of me finding an appropriate weapon is quite low, huh?* Renya assessed with a foul mood.

Luckily, as he would travel this world, there surely would be someone who has received the blacksmith skill from the little girl. *If I don't make one myself sooner or later.* Renya recalled in a corner of his mind.

As for the payment, he used the money that was stored in his [Inventory].

After mentioning that she would loan him the necessary funds, Shion saw Renya take out the gold coin and obviously was wondering where he had obtained it with strong curiosity.

Now that you mention it, the Lost come to this world by accident, so they naturally don't have any of the currency used in this world on them. Because the money for selling the magic core hasn't been paid out yet, it must appear to be a strange matter for others to see me possessing money of my own.

How should I answer this? Shaking his head after turning around, he began an awkward explanation of him finding some money laying on the ground at the time of him coming to this world and picking it up.

Renya himself thought that she wouldn't buy his story so easily. Unexpectedly, Shion easily believed the story and said that even if the gold was the lost property of another person that it would be appropriate to spend it.

Too easy, passing that story off was too simple, or should I rather say she is too trusting in regards to matters she doesn't know about? That's quite worrying in itself. Renya thought in the end.

"Renya, first off I want to properly thank you." (Shion)

To the raised voice, Renya returned to reality from within his own thoughts.

Turning his eyes to the one who spoke, Shion stared at him silently with a humble expression.

Shion was seated on the opposite side of the table.

Next to her, Rona was sitting with her usual smiling face.

Before he could open his mouth to ask "What do you want to thank me for?", a hand appeared next to him placing the food on the table while he was wondering.

When he had ordered his dinner, he had left it to the shopkeeper and thus he got the special of the day. It was something as simple as soup with bread and salad, too.

The salad, the name of which he didn't know, was properly filled with vegetable leaves. Although the only seasoning was vinegar and salt, the vegetables themselves were

delicious. Tasting the food resulted in Renya being satisfied. The problem was the soup and bread.

The soup had some vegetables and small pieces of smashed meat in order for it to cook together well. Because there was little salt in it, the taste was rather thin.

The bread was probably only baked using wheat. It was hard to the degree of being difficult to chew. Dividing it and soaking it in the the soup made it possible to eat it. The bread itself had no flavor at all, the soup was thin, making the whole thing plainly unappetizing.

In the time of waiting for the relief squad arriving at the pioneer's village, the villagers offered him a similar bread to eat. Partially he had hoped and anticipated to eat more delicious food in a human habitat. Thus his disappointment was immense.

There is plenty of room to improve on the quality of the food, huh? Renya sighed.

"So, what were we talking about?" (Renya)

"Our gratitude, gra • ti • tu • de!" (Shion)

Spending time on stressing the last word, Shion bend herself forward while raising her voice. Renya looked at her colored with doubt wondering *What's this person saying?*

Unable to just watch this situation any longer, Rona pushed into the conversation.

"It's about the exchange with Deputy Branch Leader Fritz." (Rona)

"Ah, that matter? There is no particular need to thank me for that, is there?" (Renya)

Having easily given up on eating the disgusting bread, Renya tasted the drink he had ordered alongside the food.

It was something called ale, it was a drink that appeared in the same manner with the same name in his previous world. The sourness was stronger than the bitterness. There weren't many bubbles rising to the surface either.

Frankly said, this was quite disgusting as well.

Furthermore, since it was served lukewarm, the distaste doubled.

Really, are there any delicious things as the little girl claimed there to be? Renya ended up having such suspicions.

You might say that it will be like losing half of life's enjoyment if that isn't the case.

However, it is a fact that delicious things are expensive no matter which world or era you are talking about.

Therefore, if I have even a 0.001% chance to obtain delicious things with money in this world, I won't abandon hope, Renya decided.

If the time comes where this hope turns into despair, I will severely spank that little girl when I meet her again after my death.

“Eto, Renya? ...” (Shion)

“It's fine to not worry about such things. To begin with, on the occasion we were attacked by the goblin group, the investigation and subjugation were likely finished at that time. Thinking about making mistakes will lead to only making mistakes. Insisting on success will hinder those trying to deny it.” (Renya)

Neither the location of the goblin settlement in the forest, nor the scale of the settlement, nor how many goblin villages were about were required to be reported in the original request in any detail. Still this wouldn't be able to give an excuse for their failure. He left those things unsaid though.

Although it was completely Renya's conjecture from here on out, he somehow judged that the guild itself wasn't overly interested in obtaining a detailed report to begin with.

From the start the party sent to investigate was a swordsman apprentice, a priest apprentice and six Hyahha³ men. By no means was this a party composition geared towards investigation as its goal.

At any rate, even if you let non-specialized adventurers wander around within the forest, they would run into a goblin or such sooner or later since it was monster inhabited to such an extent. They could just hire a random party of 8 people and they would beat down some goblins to thin out the monster population even if it took a

long time to do so. Most likely the guild harbored such dark thoughts.

In other words the expected degree of detail in the report was to meet a goblin, defeat it and return without causing any problems.

The request failed because it was impossible to properly investigate, seeing this in the final report, the guild wouldn't need to pay the reward and a proper penalty could be levied against the adventurers due to *their* failure. Or in other words, the guild would get a clear gain if the story ended up unfolding like that.

The virtue of diligence can sometimes be a decisive fault, in reality, as one can easily see in this example. It was this kind of story after all. Renya concluded.

“But, in my case, I couldn't have handled it like that. As a result, our evaluation didn't drop and we even received the full reward for the request. I am pretty sure that this is something to be thankful for.” (Shion)

The virtue of diligence, being a virtue, if you remove the two characters 「くそ」 from virtue (美德) it will merely become weakness, describing the situation like this is also true, Renya dropped his shoulders.⁴

Although I said 'thanks wouldn't be necessary,' I don't think they will simply accept that.

In that case the only question remaining would be what words to say in order to quickly end the subject, huh? Renya nodded his agreement to Shion.

“Understood. I gratefully accept your *words* of thanks.” (Renya)

Renya stressed the “words” part of his answer intentionally as he saw Shion wanting to say something more in order for her to not say anything else.

Judging from Shion's character, she wanted to start talking about transferring some of the request's reward to him. Even if he didn't see any signs of that, it was easy for Renya to predict it.

“Is it really fine?” (Rona)

Intending to provide support, Rona asked this.

“The reward for the request totals to 12 gold coins. Accepting 4 gold coins from that

amount would be fine, Shion said so as well.” (Rona)

Although he wasn’t sure when they had such a discussion, Renya clearly shook his head to convey that he had no intention to accept this money.

In the first place I didn’t receive that request so I shouldn’t get any reward either.

Even if they said they would give him part of the reward, there wasn’t an ounce of intention within Renya to accept it.

“Even so, isn’t the reward amount kind of high? Is that normal?” (Renya)

“Ah, it’s the payment prepared for 8 people after all.” (Rona)

The reward per person would be 1 gold coin and 50 silver coins, going by Rona’s words.

Considering that going to the destination takes 2 days, investigating for 2 days, and returning afterwards takes 2 days as well, the whole expedition would be limited to 6 days. Or in other words, it would be 25 silver coins per day per person.

Assuming that it would be 25,000 Japanese yen in his previous world, that might be an appropriate amount of money.

Although it wouldn’t have been necessary to pay the amount of reward money for those people who have died, the amount of money they would receive was decided upon accepting the request. In the case that the number of people would decrease, it was normal for the reward to be divided equally among those remaining. Rona explained.

“With this the talk about the reward is finished. As a matter of fact, from here on out it will be about the real issue at hand for us, Renya.” (Shion)

Leaning deep into the chair and taking a deep breath in order to change the atmosphere for a moment, Shion was preparing to speak frankly about something important. Such was the mood Renya experienced while he waited for her to begin.

She will probably be bringing up some troublesome subject again, huh? At least this much is obvious from how she averts her gaze from mine. Renya silently waited for Shion to continue.

“To be honest... we want to invite you into our party and would like you to consider it.” (Shion)

“Invitation? Me, a Lost?” (Renya)

Come to think of it, I remember Fritz asked a similar question in regards to this matter at the time we were about to leave, too.

“Is it your intention to act together with these children?”

Most likely that could be called a bitter hint towards this invitation, huh?

If that was the case, Renya didn't realise it at all. Assuming something like this, these two must have shown some signs of matters heading in that direction, as the guild leader was able to notice it. As one would expect of the person being employed as deputy branch leader.

He couldn't reply at that time since he didn't understand what it was about. Now that it had come to the people themselves inviting him, he was wavering in his decision as to how he was supposed to answer.

And above all, Renya didn't understand why they were inviting him.

If you only thought about his combat skills, certainly he had defeated a large horde of goblins almost by himself. Looking at it that way, there could be no objection to his combat potential and thus he deemed it to be understandable.

However, Renya was a Lost, a person with a peculiar standing. He wasn't an inhabitant of this world. Only having his identification papers due to the registration at the guild, he was an ambiguous being no matter how you viewed him.

If one were to measure how suspicious he was with a machine, the gauge would definitely swing towards Completely Suspicious.

Furthermore, he possessed none of the common sense of this world, and hadn't a clue what affairs he was not to meddle in.

He would become a party member thought to be trouble in the making, such would be a being known as a Lost.

Given the situation at hand, Renya felt like speaking as he didn't understand them.

Considering it normally, it wouldn't be strange for the two girls to distance themselves from him immediately.

"Although we've known each other for just a short time, I think it will likely be exposed. I don't know a great many things and I am not very intelligent either."

For Renya, from the time he met Shion's group until now, he had harbored many doubts. Those doubts continued to exist unchanged.

In order to answer those problems, he had a feeling that Shion would address them directly. So Renya carefully listened to what Shion said.

"Just like the situation at the time with the deputy branch leader, we are not able to skilfully deal with such things. In comparison, Renya seems to be very experienced in how to deal with such situations." (Shion)

More or less, as I am a 94 year old man on the inside, even if I lost most of my memories. Considering this, Shion's group is just inexperienced and can't be compared to my own position. What face would Shion make if I told her that? Renya thought in a corner of his mind.

"Moreover Renya is strong... having you as a nakama⁵ would be reassuring. We are just a party of two women, however thinking about us also working as adventurers, I have a strong premonition it isn't a good thing." (Rona)

Took you long enough to notice, Renya was barely able to hold back replying with such a tsukkomi. ⁶

If people with just a little trust in each other gather, they won't be able to form a clique in the end unless there is a very powerful individual included. Thus there is no reason why normal adventurers would be able to simply do that.

Rather, although it was for a short period, coming across only two women can be called good fortune, the god of this world... with the exception of this world heading towards its destruction due to the lack of administrative ability. That little girl is somehow different, though. I should express my gratitude to the kami-sama governing somewhere in a far distant place over good fortune, is what he thought.

“At the time of the goblin attack, I judged you as a person I can trust, too. Although it was a situation where it wouldn’t usually be strange for a single person to run away either, you helped us.”

“I think that’s the normal course of action, though.” (Renya)

“Although that might be the case, I choose to believe in my intuition. How about it? If you become our nakama, we will teach you the various things you don’t know. Of course, we will teach you about this world as far as we are able, as well. I think we will be capable of helping you before long, too. I don’t think it’s such a bad deal.” (Shion)

Teaching me about various things ... I wonder how much instruction will be fine. Such thoughts came rising up within his mind, causing Renya’s lips to slightly curl into a small sneer.

Shion took it with a wry smile assuming a gloomy look as she was thinking it would be no good.

Although Rona’s expression is a smiling one, her gaze causes one’s temperature to quickly drop. You can call this a truly terrific display of skill. Renya observed.

As it is obvious now, I am pretty sure she is able to sense what I was thinking about. While Renya raised his right hand to cover his mouth, he considered what he should tell them.

“Ah, first off, I am honestly very happy that you want to invite me. I have no relatives and thus getting nakama would be a huge help. However, I want to consider my reply for a little while. Specifically, for about one night.” (Renya)

“I see, that’s true. Certainly one can’t expect an immediate answer to such a request. After all it might be a subject that will majorly influence Renya’s future from now on. I understand. Not hurrying is fine. We will hope for a favorable response.” (Shion)

Having thought she would be refused, Shion completely changed and her face obviously cheered up as he was willing to consider his reply.

The coldness of Rona’s gaze disappeared. Even though it disappeared, he didn’t understand what she was thinking about as the clinging smile on her face didn’t change at all.

Well then, what should I do? While thinking that, Renya poured the disgusting ale into his throat in one go.

Translation Notes

¹ The name in Japanese is “Banbutsu no Genei,” which roughly translates to “illusion/vision/shadow of all creation/all there is/above all others.” It is basically a VERY Chuunibyou name, and required a lot of work to make it NOT sound stupid.

² nagadachi = “(ancient) longsword”

³ Don’t ask me what that is.

⁴ Sorry, but this is the best interpretation of the sentence I can give as I don’t know the Japanese language to comment on the character removal.

⁵ Friend/Companion ... well those who watch One Piece know that it’s a bit more than that.

⁶ Tsukkomi ... another typical Japanese term coming from Japanese comedy routines where two entertainers interact with each other. One is telling something while the other intercepts with tsukkomis. Hard to describe it, so google it, if you want. ED Note: There is typically one “fool” and a “straight man,” where the fool is doing or saying or retelling something in a manner befitting a fool. The straight man butts into the action to give a sharp correction to the fool, which is called a “Tsukkomi.” It is a popular type of comedic act, and has been since the days of Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin.

CHAPTER 14

IT SEEMS TO BE A NIGHT ASSAULT

Is it past midnight? he thought without any kind of basis.

Since there was no clock, it generally was impossible to tell what the exact time was at present.

After the citizens fell asleep, different from his previous world, there was hardly anything you could call night activity in this world.

Because there is nothing making any sounds, nor anything to listen to, the silence becomes almost painful. Merely his own breathing can be heard quietly.

At the time he was at the pioneer's village, the dog or wolf packs, he wasn't sure which of them, living in the forest could be heard howling. In the city even that was missing.

The pleasure and amusement facilities had already closed down and everybody crawled into their beds as no decent people would be awake at this time. At the most there were the grumbled complaints of those who weren't permitted to leave their station which wouldn't be anyone else but the city guards.

While thinking about this situation, Renya was sitting up on top of his bed.

It was dark in his room.

Each room was equipped with a candle in order to provide a light source. Of course it was extinguished once the occupant went to sleep.

At the moment, the only light entering the room was coming from the sole window by the bright moon standing high in the sky and shining down its light upon the surface.

As the window wasn't overly transparent, it was difficult to clearly look at the sky.

Wasn't he feeling tired enough yet from the piled up exhaustion? Or did the bed not suit his tastes?

Apparently he wasn't able to fall asleep in a restful slumber.

Although he had also drunken some alcohol at dinner, his sleepiness hadn't increased at all. Also, he had only gone to bed as Shion's group had recommended doing so. The bed itself was more or less quite clean. But, for some reason or another he somehow didn't feel quite comfortable lying down on it.

After coming to this world he hadn't yet had a chance to take a proper bath which might also be a reason for his current restlessness. *While it's not to the degree that I can fall asleep, there is obviously some drowsiness firmly pulling at my mind*, Renya assessed.

It didn't particularly mean that Renya was a slouch though.

Just, as for this world's customs, the event of taking a bath wasn't a common occurrence.

Since that was the case, he wondered how the inhabitants of this world kept their bodies clean without taking a bath. Scooping up water from a basin to wash one's face and then use it with a cloth to wipe the body of sweat and dirt seemed to be the standard method to keep the body clean.

Renya had recalled that he was a Japanese person in his previous world.

And so, just like the great majority of the Japanese people, Renya perceived the matter of taking a bath as a normal devotion.

But, he wasn't able to do that here.

It wasn't like baths were unknown here, but such things as gathering hot water to fill the bath tub just to soak the body in the hot water was something unreasonable for the common public due to the costs involved. Except for the apparent portion of rich people like the nobles and the royalty, Renya wasn't aware of anyone else taking a bath.

Although it was extremely unpleasant, he had no other choice but to put up with it for now.

Since he couldn't stand it, he had received a washbasin filled with hot water from the inn employee before going to sleep. Wiping his whole body with a cloth, Renya somewhat had the feeling of becoming slightly clean in the end. Since he couldn't use

a bathtub to amply soak his whole body in hot water, his body didn't feel completely relaxed after all either.

There also is the urgent matter of improving my meals. After having tasted that dinner earlier, it is absolutely necessary to do something about the entire situation to significantly improve it, Renya uneasily grumbled about the future.

As he was thinking about such serious matters, he ended up completely perking up.

Thereupon, as if waiting for that chance, two soft knocks resounded from the entrance door.

For a moment Renya thought he made a mistake in his hearing as he looked towards the door.

For a while there was a pause before there was a knock again.

Although it didn't seem like he misheard, Renya didn't remember having any acquaintances who would visit his room this late in the night.

Or rather, in the case of Renya, he had almost no acquaintances to begin with.

Talking about acquaintances, currently it would only be Shion and Rona.

He couldn't count in those he just knew by their faces and names either, which would apply to deputy branch leader Fritz, as he hadn't told him which pub he would choose as a resting place, thus he could be excluded from the possibilities.

Having done this selection by exclusion, it could only be either Shion or Rona who had chosen the same pub as him. However there was no way a young woman would visit the room of a male this late in the night.

They should be at least this careful, Renya thought using his common sense.

As he wasn't sure if it was usual to visit a man's room in the dead of night in this alternate world, he wasn't able to reach a definite conclusion on what to do.

If this is a little bit like what happens to protagonists of Light Novels, I should have somehow raised a flag with a heroine somewhere, no? Although he should be delighted about such a thing, Renya was unfortunately an exceeding realist and moreover a

slight pessimist as well.

Since he had the conviction from the beginning that such a pleasantly embarrassing event wouldn't occur anyway, he couldn't help but feel that the late night visitor smelled like trouble.

From within the little luggage he had, he retrieved the knife he had borrowed for removing raw materials from monsters.

Gripping this drawn knife in his right hand, he moved to the wall beside the door that would conceal him behind the opening door from anyone who entered.

In reality he preferred to hold a powerful long sword as a weapon but there was almost no chance to obtain one at the moment. In that case this whole matter wouldn't be so troublesome. He would be able to instill a feeling of dread and deep seated doubt within his opponent with the drawn blade of a long sword.

After the second knock, there was no indication that the door would be opened.

'Still the person who had knocked earlier must be waiting on the other side of the door.' Renya judged.

Cautiously gripping the door knob with his left hand, he talked in a small but still clear voice so the person other side could hear it.

"Who is there?" (Renya)

"Sorry for disturbing you this late in the night. It's me, Rona. I wish to talk with you for a while. If you don't mind, could you let me in?" (Rona)

The voice replying to him was certainly Rona's.

The person on the other side of the door was without a doubt one of his acquaintances even though he couldn't prove it. Somehow Renya got a strong feeling that some kind of trouble was approaching him and thus he grimaced.

If it were Shion, at worst, he could try to feign ignorance to the circumstances and deal with the situation superficially by saying that there is a chance of him losing to his lust if she came to visit his room, albeit the chance of that really happening were slim.

However, with Rona here it was a different story.

At first glance she appeared to be full of gaps in her guard but in reality there were no gaps at all.

Furthermore, based on her also being an apprentice priestess, there was also the point of having to be careful about her profundity in comparison to Shion around whom he didn't have to be quite as modest.

Such a woman visited the room of a man this late in the night.

There was definitely something wrong, or rather it was impossible that there was nothing amiss.

Because there was no way that it was nothing, nevertheless, as it was possible that they would spend a long time together as companions from now on, he couldn't treat her cruelly now either.

"The subject can't wait until tomorrow? I want to sleep, too. I'm tired." (Renya)

"It's a subject that has to be addressed now. Can I ask for your forgiveness for my unreasonable request?" (Rona)

Renya's tone completely carried the nuance of telling her to return to her own room immediately. Whereas Rona's tone gave off the feeling that she didn't intend to stand down at all.

Renya hesitated.

It was simple to firmly insist on her returning to her own room.

But that would cause Rona's impression of him to become worse which would lead to him having to decline Shion's invitation.

Certainly, Renya was still poorly informed about the circumstances in this world, but he was confident enough to somehow run across a person who could help him out in this regard.

Actually in this case, although he had asked for some time to consider it, he had come to the conclusion that immediately refusing would lead to a not overly good

relationship thereafter. However he intended to reject the invitation itself.

If he already had to act together with someone, he would prefer it to be companions of the same sex as it would be more comfortable that way.

He shouldn't have to deal with the opposite sex one way or the other.

Therefore, the first thing he would do tomorrow, was to refuse Shion's invitation. He planned to go back to the guild in order to search for a party.

Moreover, Shion is somehow inexperienced and Rona is a person whom you never know what she is thinking, Renya judged.

Those two are hiding something and that will, with almost absolute certainty, lead to a lot of trouble.

This was the conclusion Renya had reached.

However, right then, this one dropped in for a short visit.

That is, I do understand the feeling of certain body parts no matter how withered my body might have been as I previously died peacefully at the age of 94 years as an old man. After all I can be classified as a man in the end. I know of the previous degree of entanglement due to my little finger.¹ He thought.

Well, how about freely declining all requests by women?

Renya didn't care about his own face at all when he was at the pioneer's village. He only started to do so after seeing the reflection of it in the water of the washbasin he had borrowed from the inn.

Black hair and eyes and an average personal appearance emitting a deep knowledge.

Easy to like and easy to hate, being acceptable as well as being improper. Such was the impression he received.

And at the pioneer's village I rescued them both and helped them even more, leaving a fairly good impression, he assessed with certainty.

The probability of her coming here to confess her love was like drawing the winning

ticket of 100,000,000 yen from a 100 yen ticket. However he couldn't declare with absolute certainty that it wasn't so either.

“...No way.” (Renya)

While Renya reached that self-conclusion at an abnormal speed, he decided to let Rona into the room.

There were two reasons.

First, even if Rona was scheming something, he predicted that he would be sufficiently able to cope with it.

Second, he didn't find any words to absolutely persuade Rona to return to her own room.

“Understood. The door is open. Since I have no intention to invite you, enter on your own discretion.” (Renya)

“Kind and inviting words are troublesome, but since it can't be helped I will deal with you” were the undertone he conveyed to her with his reply. As Renya unlocked the door with the key, he immediately turned his back towards the door.

He placed the knife he held under the pillow on the bed. As he sat down on the edge of the bed a lewd smile floated on his face but he soon dispelled it after thinking about it deeply. No matter how much time passed, he didn't particularly notice the sound of the door opening.

Thinking that she wouldn't really wait for the door to be opened for her, Renya turned towards the door. Before his eyes Rona was standing with her usual smiling face where you never knew what she was thinking about.

I was careless. When did she come in? Thinking about this question, Renya was one step late.

Using that momentary delay, Rona used that chance to tackle Renya with her own body, pushing him down on the bed so he laid face up.

With a feeling of *What kind of joke is this supposed to be?* his typical train of thoughts caused Renya to be delayed in his reaction.

When he finally noticed, she had completely taken the mount position and thus finished pinning him down.

“Renya-san...” (Rona)

Renya’s shoulders where held down with both her hands and Rona brought her face close to his in one go.

Still wearing her priest’s garb for no good reason even in the dead of night, Rona had intended to tackle him right from the start. The appearance of her night-wear was only hindered by the string at her waist.

As the collar area was widely opened in comparison to her usual priest’s garb, naturally the countenance of the swelling of her breasts which shouldn’t usually be seen was sticking out halfway. Being in a straddling position, the hem of her clothes ended up revealing quite a bit of her thighs. The scene was definitely lascivious. Renya’s pulse slightly increased.

“You do understand, right? ...What kind of situation this is.” (Rona)

“No, I totally don’t understand. I don’t remember having raised such a flag at all either.” (Renya)

Rona took away the hands pinning down his shoulders in order to deal with the hem of his shirt.

『どういふことなのか……
お分かりですよね?』

ダイレクトに伝わってくる
熱と柔らかさと重みが、
あつさりと蓮弥の理性を蕩かしかける。



No, that is definitely a bad idea. Renya thought as his shirt was lifted up in no time exposing his bare skin. Shifting her body position from his belly downwards to the hips, she used the transition to press her body down on his with its exposed skin in order to embrace him. While doing so, Rona's lips approached Renya's ear.

"After doing this much... do you intend to make me say it?" (Rona)

As the body parts touching each other increased, the transmission of the heat, tenderness and weight weren't hindered by the clothes at all. Renya's reason easily went flying. The still remaining composed part of it that was dwelling deep within his mind cried out "It's a trap! It's definitely a trap!"

Opposing this was another part of his mind, calling out "Even if it is a trap, there is nothing to dislike about it."

As he had no experience in how to deal with women, he reached the conclusion to simply go with the flow. "How far do you intend to go in the end?" he heard the barely audible voice denying his conclusion.

Being surprised at that, he decided to follow the calm voice within his mind rather than the desires of his own body. He crushed Rona's strength with the power of his own body.

Attacking her in her unguarded moment, although he was laying facing up, it didn't mean that Renya was completely defenseless.

Struggling several times, he tried to escape from under Rona at least. As her arm was locked in embracing him glued their bodies together and pressed him down, she didn't allow him to escape.

In case of a simple contest of power, there was no reason for Renya to lose to Rona. However, their bodily positions were to Rona's advantage in this situation.

It is impossible to pull her off, huh? There is the recoil of delivering a blow to her, too. I don't understand what Rona is aiming for with the present situation. Renya didn't care about the methods anymore.

"Please don't act so violently, Renya-san ...You can let me handle it. I will make you feel good." (Rona)

“Wa-Wait, damn. First of all, calm down. No, is it me who has to calm down? ...Anyway, get off me. Being dragged into such a situation, I don’t see any reason or memory to explain it!” (Renya)

“Do you want to bother the neighbours with your loud shouting? Or do you want me to... plug this mouth of yours?” (Rona)

“S-T-O-P it. Don’t whisper into my ear, don’t use such a sultry tone and don’t blow your hot breath into my ear!” (Renya)

A part of Renya’s ear was wrapped up in a warm damp sensation.

It was just like imagined play-biting. Something lukewarm was caressing his ear lobe.

At the time this comparative sensation ran down his spine, Renya resolved to separate himself from it.

Namely Do you want your sense of self to be washed away like this? Or do you want to move forward with resolution?

“Rona, this is the final warning. Stop it right now...” (Renya)

“Renya-san...” (Rona)

Towards his cold attitude, Rona skilfully bit his ears digging in her teeth just a tiny bit.

This has already exceeded the stage of talking, Renya understood. Suddenly clenching his right hand into a fist, he only made his thumb tightly stand up.

“I gave you fair warning.” (Renya)

Using his extended thumb, he thrust it into the side of Rona’s abdomen.

“Hiyaa!?” (Rona)

Screaming in disarray, Rona’s body lost its strength.

Thereupon, without mercy, Renya continued striking both sides of Rona’s abdomen with similar attacks. Without giving her any chance to regain her position, Renya fled from beneath Rona.

Simultaneously he pulled Rona's clothes turning her over on top of the bed while at the same time diving towards the pillow to grab the knife he had hidden there. Then he leaped back close to the wall.

At least he now had taken the necessary distance, as his calm mind had ordered him to do.

The not so calm part of him entered a state similar to the simmering noise of boiling honey.²

It is a good thing that my body has become young again, but with such weakness occurring at the same time, I mustn't become negligent, Renya assessed while roughly catching his breath.

Rona, who had been tossed on top of the bed and laid there spread-eagled, didn't show any signs of getting up.

Since it is night, it's a good thing that the room remains shrouded in darkness, Renya pondered while waiting for his breathing to regulate.

Most likely his face was bright red. He didn't want to consider it too much. The state of his lower part couldn't be helped in such situation either as he was a man after all. This incident was going to be trouble.

Renya couldn't deny it if someone were to ask him. For a while now he had the wish to go back to the bed even while frantically trying to calm down his mind. He repeatedly took deep breaths.

CHAPTER 15

IT SEEMS TO BE AFTER THE ASSAULT

“No good, huh?” (Rona)

Rona raised her voice while still lying on the bed. Somehow Renya’s breathing and body had calmed down. Moreover quite some time had passed by now.

Casually stretching out both hands and legs while facing upwards, this questioning voice loudly escaped from within her chest where the two mounds were visibly standing out.

Because idly staring at her in this state stirred strange feelings within Renya, he averted his gaze in a panic.

The knife he had recovered from the bed made him extremely nervous.

Surely, in front of a monster this knife is something like a safeguard that I wouldn’t want to be without, and in a situation like this either, Renya thought about its nature.

“And I thought I’d advanced it to such a pleasant stage.” (Rona)

“You pushed me dangerously close to breaking, baka” (Renya)

As Renya spit those words out, Rona began to laugh.



“What’s so funny?” he glared at her, who showed no sign of intending to get up. Turning only her face towards Renya, Rona said,

“I did something very regrettable.” (Rona)

“You could at least explain the reason, couldn’t you?” (Renya)

“I wanted you to accept Shion’s invitation. Isn’t that enough?” (Rona)

“For only this reason you used your priestess’ body to seduce me? That’s pretty much impossible.” (Renya)

“For me this was reason enough, it’s nothing that unusual, right?” (Rona)

Although Rona clearly stated this, she immediately sighed.

“However, it ended in failure. How disappointing. Renya-san, you were planning on refusing Shion’s invitation, weren’t you?” (Rona)

Renya was too embarrassed to answer.

Was this the place to persistently play dumb? Or should he act surprised due to being seen through here?

Not hoping for a favorable reply from the start, Rona continued without waiting for Renya’s words,

“I just want Renya-san to accept Shion’s invitation by any means. Can’t you somehow reconsider?” (Rona)

“Why do you want that? And why do you insist on me?” (Renya)

“As for the answer of your first question: Renya-san, you think that Shion is something of an inexperienced and foolish girl, don’t you?” (Rona)

“I haven’t judged her so far as to call her foolish.” (Renya)

“You don’t deny her inexperience though.” (Rona)

Do you want me to admit it myself? Renya thought.

As for her virtues, you can easily say that she is a fine, diligent girl.

However if you look at it from the point of view of an adventurer, thinking of helping another person without considering the situation, sometimes you have to become defiantly brazen and unscrupulous. Immediately doing something like admitting her own fault will cause her to fall into a disadvantageous situation. But it can't be helped that she isn't aware of such a thing either, can it? He thought.

When he honestly told Rona this, she agreed with an, "As expected, that's right."

"For this reason I want Renya-san to enter our party." (Rona)

"I have understood this from Shion's attempts at persuasion. However, to select a Lost like me to travel with her is dangerous in and of itself in the first place." (Renya)

"No, no! I can pretty much tell from Renya-san's appearance that you are obviously quite experienced." (Rona)

I am 94 years old to begin with, Renya murmured within in his mind.

Although it doesn't make any particular difference to me to tell them about my real age, Rona and Shion most likely would think that I am joking without believing a word of it anyways.

Therefore it would be futile to tell them about it, Renya judged.

"Can't you somehow grant my wish? The only reward I can give you, is myself." (Rona)

"Why do something like that? Immediately proposing to give away your own body..." (Renya)

"That is... maa, let's say it's a woman's secret." (Rona)

What woman's secret? Renya thought. *For sure Rona's proposal is quite charming.*

Even now Rona's defenseless body was sprawled out on top of the bed. Renya hadn't regained his presence of mind to such an extent that he wouldn't feel anything from being invited by such a bishoujo.

Being invited to do as one pleases to her, it isn't hard to predict that the majority of

males are guaranteed to give her an immediate reply in the end.

Although it wasn't easy, Renya strongly resisted to not having his mind taken over by his lust.

"To tell you the truth, in regards to refusing the invitation, there is another reason as well." (Renya)

After the attempt to seduce him, there was no way for the situation to become even more chaotic no matter what he did. Thus Renya decided to use this situation to inquire about a matter that had been bugging him all the time since he had met the two.

"Once you have understood the reason and resolved the part that has been worrying me, I won't mind accepting your invitation and accompanying you even without Rona having to become the sacrifice for it." (Renya)

"Somehow, I feel like I don't want to answer but I will try my best to do so." (Rona)

"The thing that worries me is something you should be aware of and the answer should be somehow obvious to you." ¹ (Renya)

When Renya said that, Rona tilted her head to the side obviously showing that she didn't understand what he was talking about.

That gesture made him think that she was an innocent girl by nature while possessing an innate charm towards men, which influenced Renya so greatly that he reflexively thought he misjudged his choice of words. However, Renya didn't intend to let her influence his thoughts from the start.

"If you intend to play dumb, I don't particularly mind. I will have you listen to me regardless." (Renya)

"Yes, I will listen to your story." (Rona)

Rona's smile didn't waver in the least.

"First off, the situation when we met was strange." (Renya)

Renya started to recall the circumstances while he talked.

“After listening to the accepted request to investigate the forest, the composition of your party was far too weird.” (Renya)

“Was it really such a weird party?” (Rona)

“Indeed, having a party of 6 men merge with a party of 2 women to take on the same request, there must be a limit to how naive you can be. In case the party composition of 8 people was necessary, I might understand the reason for such an action. However, viewing the two parties separately, it was a situation where the choice of companions was incomprehensible. It was like throwing first-class meat in front of starving wolves.” (Renya)

“Fumu ...” (Rona)

“The situation of two women who are not confident in their skills ending up being dependent on the 6 men, one way or another, made me think ‘Ah, there was such a method as well.’ Afterwards you two introduced yourselves as apprentices, too.” (Renya)

With a static expression Rona listened to Renya’s explanation while lying down on the bed. Her smile remained as it was, making it difficult to read her emotions.

“Please continue.” (Rona)

“...The second discrepancy is your appearance. No matter how you look at it, the size of your clothes is too small compared to your figure. In case that’s your hobby or has some religious reason, I’d like to hear the reason for that. As far as I can see you are purposely revealing your body lines by wearing clothes that are one size smaller than they should be.” (Renya)

“You have been looking at us with such eyes? That’s quite ecchi.” (Rona)

Rona displayed a slight movement of embarrassment. Renya regarded her with nothing but doubting eyes no matter which part of her was shaking with a *burun burun.* The spectacle didn’t captivate him any more.

Rather, her various wiles with the aim to deceive him didn’t bear any fruit. Simply staring at her apparently shady behavior, made Rona stop her silly movement after a while seeing that there was no effect on him.

“Why do you know about this?” (Rona)

“In my world something like this is called a technique of inducing one’s gaze. In short it’s a skill to attract the attention and stares of those around you onto yourself. In the case of women, it can easily be done by dressing light on purpose. That is to say, wearing a short skirt and increasing skin exposure.” (Renya)

“Your world seems to be quite dreadful, you know.” (Rona)

Rona said seriously. Without accommodating her by responding, Renya continued.

“The third discrepancy are your names. Because I don’t know about the common sense of this world, it’s at most only to the degree of my being bothered by it. Both of you should have a given name and a family name, but Shion only wrote down up to her given name ² when we arrived.” (Renya)

“What’s wrong with that?” (Rona)

“Going by what I read in novels in my previous world, this often points towards special circumstances like some absurdly long names or the complications following of people from a noble household.” (Renya)

“I wasn’t aware of that, you know. Neither me nor Shion considered giving our full name but that seems to have caused complications.” (Rona)

While her smiling face didn’t waver, Rona leaked a small sigh.

“The fourth discrepancy is about the sword you gave me during the battle with the goblins.” (Renya)

“That was... I think it was an unwise move, too.” (Rona)

As she recalled that time, for the first time her smile began to slightly cramp. However she immediately returned to her *niko niko* face.

“Although the blade of the sword can’t be considered anything good, the appearance of the hilt is magnificent. Shion said that it was a family heirloom. And you said it should be fine if it’s a Lost, Rona.” (Renya)

“You remember it quite clearly, don’t you.” (Rona)

“Because the hilt is an item passed down through Shion’s household, wouldn’t that mean the superbly crafted crest of those two entwining dragons is Shion’s family crest, is what I thought. You said it would be alright for me to use the sword because I wouldn’t be able to recognize the origin of the family crest anyway, since I am a Lost, Rona. Isn’t that what you thought?” (Renya)

“Since it is such a splendidly artistic item, it might have been bought by Shion’s family in the first place, don’t you think?” (Rona)

Although Rona spoke as a rebuttal, her tone revealed that she didn’t believe in what she was saying either.

Of course Renya had expected just such an excuse as well.

“If that’s the case, you wouldn’t carry it around as a spare weapon, don’t you agree?” (Renya)

“Ah... to call that item a spare weapon is not exactly correct.” (Rona)

“The fifth discrepancy is...” (Renya)

“There’s more...?” (Rona)

Rona’s smile ended up disappearing completely, being replaced with a serious face. Renya didn’t intend to weaken his spirit of pursuing the matter at all.

The reason for that was because Rona hadn’t confirmed even one word of Renya’s suppositions yet.

“The name written on the adventurer card. I was only able to confirm Shion’s card. Even though I gave my *full name* at the time I introduced myself, only my first name was registered on the card. For no reason, or rather, if a reason is needed, I can’t think of anything else but this acting as support for the third discrepancy I mentioned earlier. In short, someone seeing the family name would immediately recognize to which household it belonged, so to say.” (Renya)

“You have observed that quite well. Haven’t you turned the tables enough, yet...?” (Rona)

Tightly holding her chest up, Rona displayed her flustered state. ³

As one would expect Renya's awareness and gaze ended up being drawn by nature towards the pair of swaying mounds.

"Oh! There seems to be some hope." (Rona)

Upon seeing Rona's broad grin, Renya's face was dyed slightly scarlet.

"Shut up, I am a man as well. Leaving that aside, there is a sixth discrepancy." (Renya)

Tearing off his gaze from the swaying chest with a great effort of willpower, Renya continued.

"The guards hesitated slightly when they returned the adventurer cards to you." (Renya)

"That was most likely because they didn't want to part with the nice feeling of the cards which still held the warmth of our bodies I would think." (Rona)

"I think that half of the reason can be attributed to that, but is that all there is to it? I fear that it's likely that those guards know the face of either you or Shion." (Renya)

There was no reply.

By now the levity about the matter had ended. Rona stared fixedly at Renya's face with a serious expression.

"Is the matter I just mentioned of such a concern to you?" (Renya)

"What should I say? Although I intended to be careful, you still found my mistakes." (Rona)

Making it apparent that she was surrendering, Rona cast her eyes down and shrugged her shoulders.

"The answer to number 1: The reason why we accepted such a request on purpose was for improving Shion's sense of danger." (Rona)

"It wasn't that long since you had become adventurers though, no?" (Renya)

"Yes, it was about a month prior to that. Anyway, Shion is no good. She totally lacks the

sense of danger from that direction (*ED: Men's attention*). Thus I wanted to change her way of thinking by experiencing just such a risky situation.” (Rona)

Shock treatment, huh? Renya thought. Even so, he still had a feeling that it was a far too dangerous method to fully achieve the purpose.

Renya arriving in time to rescue them was completely by chance after all.

To sum it up, considering the method on that occasion if he hadn't arrived in time to help them, Rona had already expected to be assaulted as a premise and decided that only the two of them would be able to deal with the situation one way or the other.

“Ah, because my real occupation is more or less that of a knight, sorting out six unarmed people should be doable, no? Even though I look the way I do, I am a capable person who was appointed to be a bodyguard.” (Rona)

As Renya's thoughts were displayed on his face, Rona supplemented with an explanation.

This caused Renya to be astonished. However, after personally experiencing the series of actions to pin him down and immobilize him not too long ago, a part of his mind thought *I see, that's how it was*.

Falsifying her occupation, apparently that's what she had done. *If that was the case, she should have displayed her real strength at the time of the goblin subjugation*, Renya ended up thinking.

“Since it must remain an absolute secret that I am a knight... unless there are extreme circumstances I will stick to the role of being a priestess.” (Rona)

“Ah, is that so... Is that perhaps the reason why you said you have no talent in magic...?” (Renya)

“Being a knight in priestess' clothes, if I were able to master magic, I would become a hero!” (Rona)

It was like saying maintaining the technical skill has overflowed.* 4

Although she falsified her occupation, it doesn't seem to be a lie that she is a priestess for the time being.

“Following up on speaking of the second discrepancy. That’s quite difficult...⁵ even if it is work.” (Rona)

Rona said while softly caressing her chest.

Tight 5, does she mean in the physical sense, or the emotional sense of embarrassment, or is it in regards to both? Renya wasn’t able to reach a conclusion.

“The third discrepancy: You are right, Shion is of a certain high-class lineage. However I don’t intent to reveal what kind and who it is at the present point in time.” (Rona)

At the present time it wasn’t clear what kind of position Renya would take, and in addition to that it was to be expected considering Renya’s previous urging.

“As for the fourth: That’s also the same as you had deduced before, that crest shows the blood-line of Shion.” (Rona)

“Then, the fifth discrepancy as well?” (Renya)

“Yes, registering with her full name would have caused quite an uproar, I am certain.” (Rona)

“That means the sixth discrepancy as well...” (Renya)

“You were wrong about the guards knowing *either* me or Shion, that is to say, they know the faces of *both* of us at that gate.” (Rona)

With this everything was answered, Rona admitted with her smile.

Entrusting his back to the wall and hitting his head with his palm, Renya said,

“In short, Shion is the princess of some high-class lineage you don’t want to disclose. You are following her disguised as a priestess as you were assigned as her bodyguard. I don’t understand why you would lower yourself to such a social status though. As you have severely little experience as adventurers which is why you attempted to seize me, who appears to somehow have the basics down, in order to prevent future mistakes. Such would be your reasoning, then?” (Renya)

“Those are my reasons, yes. Do you think that Shion would even consider such a matter in the first place? Because you are a man who possesses reliable strength and

can be trusted, she wishes to obtain your cooperation as a suitable companion. That's the furthest she has considered matters." (Rona)

At the time when she said she wanted to help the villagers in the pioneer's village, the result was her surrendering to the compromise plan she was told. At that time Rona looked at Renya with a glare fully transmitting her intent to strangle him to death while displaying an exceedingly bright smile.

"In other words, you are quite wicked." (Renya)

"Yes, though I don't think that's anything to be ashamed of." (Rona)

"This matter is incredibly troublesome, isn't it? Don't go dragging me into it!" (Renya)

"Don't say that. If one were to speak of heartless, after spending an entire night apart from each other, do you want to witness me weeping in front of a huge crowd of people about my being raped?" (Rona)

"Don't joke around. Do you really want to harass me with something like that?!" (Renya)

"OK, then let's enjoy ourselves to the fullest! Now~ Come on!" (Rona)

Rona spread out both her hands on top of the bed signalling an **oide oide**.

It's no good. With quite the feeling of despair Renya looked up towards the ceiling.

From the beginning Rona had intended to wager everything she could offer herself.

Renya wasn't so indifferent that he was sure his willpower would win out in the end.

A person who didn't think of the consequences of losing a competition was an absolute force.

Whether it was negotiations, gambling, or brawling, this truth could be sufficiently called a fact.

In short, at the time Rona decided to make Renya her target, the match was already decided, which was no exaggeration in the end either.

And considering Renya's situation, it was only a matter of how long he would be able to evade his inevitably disadvantageous situation through talking. That was the only question.

Having thought through things so far, Renya raised both hands while looking up the ceiling indicating his surrender.

"I give up. Though I don't know whether I will be able to live up to your expectations."
(Renya)

Hearing those words, Rona burst out into laughter on top of the bed as she was completely satisfied.

CHAPTER 16

IT SEEMS TO BE THE FORMATION OF A PARTY

“I need money. And not a small amount, either. Rather, I need a large amount of money coming in periodically.” (Renya)

“E, ue!? Ah? Eh, how much?” (Shion)

After receiving the suicidal attack of Rona with her life on the line, she had tragically surrendered in the morning of the next day.

Shion’s group showed up in the dining hall to take their breakfast. They sat down at the table Renya was already located at. After short introductory remarks, Renya rushed Shion into such a conversation.

As one would expect after suddenly being told such a thing, she only managed to reply with strange groans in the end due to being thrown into confusion by his words.

In the seat next to Shion, Rona was sitting. She didn’t show any traces at all of the suicidal attack she had attempted the night before. Nonchalantly she was watching how the matter would unfold.

Renya understood that Shion would be thrown into confusion after being told such a story out of the blue.

Even so, steering the conversation in such a direction on purpose and how he reached the conclusion to do so, naturally would bring forth doubts. Therefore he decided to make it seem like he was intending to finish the conversation he had with Shion before.

“After thinking about it for a long time by myself, I can somehow state that my prospects can’t be called very promising. Thus I concluded that I need someone to help me out.” (Renya)

“Ha, haa...” (Shion)

“However, I, as a Lost, don’t possess much knowledge about this world either, nor am I confident in my skills and neither have I any acquaintances. Because of these

circumstances, I think it will be quite troublesome for me to look for companions with the goal of earning money.” (Renya)

“That may be so... but it isn’t certain either.” (Shion)

As she still didn’t recover from the initial shock and likewise wasn’t able to keep up with flow of the conversation, Shion only managed to to give an inoffensive and harmless reply.

“In line with Shion’s invitation yesterday, I can certainly say that it is quite attractive and thus I am thinking about going along with it in the end. Given that I am taking it into consideration, my main purpose is to earn money, and if Shion approves of this then there is only negotiations remaining. How do you want to earn it?” (Renya)

“Eh? Eto?” (Shion)

“For what purpose are you planning to earn money?” (Rona)

Renya demanded an answer from the panicking Shion.

Rona interjected with a composed voice from the adjourning seat.

This action served the purpose to give the confused Shion some time to sort out her thoughts. It was plainly visible that she used the flow of the conversation of Renya talking about money to direct it in such way. Likewise it was a gentle guidance.

But as far as Renya was concerned in regards to her helping with the flow of the conversation, he judged Rona to no more than trying to direct the conversation in a way that would be convenient for herself.

‘You female fox with the eyes of a female tanuki’ giving her only such a glance, Renya chose his words while seeing Shion returning to the current circumstances. (ED: Basically, *‘Seductress with the eyes of a criminal.’*)

“I want a base. Concretely, I prefer a single house with an attached workshop. To make it absolutely clear, I want it to be at a location where no one will bother me, too.” (Renya)

“This, for what reason, again?” (Rona)

“In the pioneer’s village the circumstances were as they were, thus I endured various things. As far as returning to the city is concerned, there were too many dissatisfying incidents for me no matter how you look at it. I am unhappy and while it may be true that it isn’t the fault of those accompanying me, I want a space where I can do whatever I like.” (Renya)

“So you would like to have a house with a reasonable plot of land, huh? If you even attach a workshop to that, something along the line of one platinum coin would be necessary.” (Rona)

Upon hearing Renya’s words, Rona stated her impression and in addition, albeit secretly, she informed the two, Renya and Shion, of the estimated amount of money needed while feigning that it was a spontaneous conduct to the bitter end.

‘Renya not knowing the market price of a house is only to be expected, but I fear that it’s likely that even Shion, who wants to fulfill Renya’s wish, isn’t aware of the matter of how much money must be saved to do so. Really, there is no knowledge in stock at all.’ (T/N: POV Rona)

“Well, the amount of money required can be examined later. It feels like that would be the appropriate response to such a difficult topic, do you agree?” (Renya)

“E, eh? Ah ah ... ah, un. You are right.” (Shion)

Not being given the spare time to think up too many arguments, Shion, who was still in a flustered state of mind, gave a nod to the subject Renya brought up without collecting her thoughts on the matter.

“Understood. As for myself, any kind of livelihood is fine, even if that might be a dark way of thinking. The objective is to purchase a house. With this I think it is worth it to work towards that objective. I think it’s fine this way.” (Shion)

“That’s my goal though ...” (Renya)

“Earning one platinum coin by yourself is quite difficult. Since we’ve already become friends, we might as well use the house as base of the party, don’t you think?” (Shion)

Shion declared quite readily.

Without saying anything, Renya directed his eyes towards Rona. Rona sensing Renya’s

gaze upon herself quickly turned her line of sight away and directed it towards another direction.

'Isn't it yourself who brought up this impending crisis?' Renya wanted to complain to her, but Renya himself understood as well that voicing his complaints towards Rona in her current state would be a mistake.

Even though he understood it, since he wasn't able to complain to person herself, naturally he didn't expect Rona to say anything nor could he do anything about it.

Because Rona understood it for sure as well, she averted her eyes from him.

No matter how long he would stare at her, Rona would continue to avoid his gaze by forcefully looking away. Reluctantly Renya resumed choosing his next words as much as possible while Shion was talking.

"Ano na (Look here), there is no one in any age who doesn't understand what it means to talk about men and women living under the same roof, don't you think?" (Renya)

"Isn't it fine? We are companions after all. Isn't that kind of like a family?" (Shion)

'Completely believing in the good nature of others combined with a lack of knowledge about the relationship between a man and a woman, such features by themselves can be called very beautiful. But that poor self-awareness lacks any sense of danger as usual.'

'In a meaning very different from the time with Rona, I think it's very unlikely I will be able to win this' Renya raised both his hands in defeat while affirming so within his mind.

'In order for this to work out, I think I have to take it to the limit as a joke at least once before it becomes a situation which will be impossible to bear, huh?' He thought.

"...Well... when that time comes, let's discuss this once again. Now then..." (Renya)

Postponing the problem.

You could also say that he did his best to lock the problem away into a far corner of his mind.

Shouting within his mind "There is nooooothinng I can do about it!"

“Fumu? I don’t quite understand, but anyway, there is no objection towards making the matter of earning money our main goal. Let’s cooperate. Isn’t that fine?” (Shion)

That phrasing, yea yea it was a rather anticlimatic ending.

For some reason it was similar to the situation of Shion inquiring about Renya’s countenance.(In ch. 7)

Rona donned her usual smile however, once again, it didn’t reach her eyes at all. Her cruel gaze adamantly told Renya that refusing here wasn’t allowed.

“That’s true. Although I don’t know what lies ahead of us, for the time being please take care of me, to say the least.” (Renya)

No sooner than when Renya finished speaking, Shion bent herself forward across the table and grabbed both of Renya’s hands tightly. With a joyful expression she shook them up and down.

“I see! Thank you, Renya! I’m sure we will become good companions, the three of us!” (Shion)

“Eh, ah, un?” (Renya)

Shion’s sudden excitement didn’t connect with Renya.

Without realizing Renya’s state of mind, Shion continued to raise her tension.



“You are really saving us! I was worrying all night what to do if you were to refuse. If Renya had refused in the end, I would have to go straight to the guild to do my utmost in calling out to unknown male adventurers in order to invite them...” (Shion)

“Usually that would be very annoying, to the other party...” (Renya)

“What would you do if you made a mistake with your invitation!” Renya muttered. But that didn’t reach Shion’s ears at all.

“I am really glad... Thanks to that I can continue my adventuring life. With this the family won’t...” (Shion)

“Shion!?” (Rona)

Aggravated by what she was hearing, Rona suddenly jumped at Shion and covered her mouth.

Shion, who was still grasping Renya’s hands tightly while Rona covered her mouth, made an expression that could be summed up in “Shit!”

‘How am I to deal with this?’ while showing a vague smile, Renya screamed within his mind with a great feeling of trouble.

Shion was far too close for Renya to realistically pretend he didn’t hear it.

Taking advantage of the system of deafness commonly used by romcom protagonists, smoothly pretending they didn’t hear anything. Such acting wasn’t anything Renya was capable of doing, and neither did he want to try.

Having said that, it was clear without any doubt that it was a topic he wasn’t supposed to have heard about at all.

During the time of a mere instant.

Even though it didn’t happen until now that he had to use it, Renya accelerated his speed of thought processing and thus said.

“Is there anyone else you want to become a companion?” (Renya)

“”Eh?”” (Rona & Shion)

Rona and Shion synchronized their questioning voice.

Without showing it on his facial expression and without sweating, he behaved in an ordinary way without changing his usual atmosphere. While persuading himself of this, Renya managed by something like a miracle to squeeze out those words with a strong tone of voice.

If he wasn't able to pretend not having heard about something he wasn't supposed to hear, he decided that he had no other choice but to act like he misinterpreted what he had heard previously.

"Err, by family... you meant getting another companion to join us, no?" (Renya)

"W-well... s-such as th-three people isn't..." (Shion)

"Haven't you misunderstood, Renya-san? Isn't that right, Shion?" (Rona)

"That's true, Renya must have misunderstood. I won't say anything." (Shion)

"Is that so? Misunderstood, huh? That's quite rude..." (Renya)

Although he was certain he had heard something, he pretended to think about it while making sure to have his gaze wandering about in the air and thus removed his line of sight from Shion and Rona.

Even if Renya appeared to be nonchalant and although it wasn't a good time to look over at them again, he felt it was okay if he did not look at them directly. Just as he thought, Shion's forehead was thinly covered in sweat, her face was red and her eyes were swimming, all that was reflected for a fraction of a second at the edge of his view.

Next to her Rona was wiping the sweat on the forehead in panic while whispering something into Shion's ear in such a low voice that it wouldn't be audible to Renya.

Worrying about the pros and cons of joining this party, he didn't expect anyone to comprehend his mental strain either.

While it may be true that he was able to resolve the tension by giving them a sense of security about how much he heard of what slipped from her mouth, Renya felt an unusual anxiety about joining this party for a different reason.



PDF BY: TRAITORAIZEN